

Economy

Remittance inflows hit record USD 3.62bn in March

April 01, 2026

- Bangladesh recorded a historic surge in remittance inflows, receiving USD 3.62bn in the first 30 days of March 2026, marking the highest monthly figure in the country's history.
- The increase was largely driven by higher transfers from expatriates ahead of Eid-ul-Fitr, providing a strong boost to the country's foreign exchange reserves.

From: <https://observerbd.com/news/571219>

LDC graduation could cost Bangladesh USD 17.5bn in exports: UNCTAD

April 01, 2026

- Bangladesh could lose more than USD 17.5bn in exports following its graduation from the least developed country (LDC) category, the steepest projected loss among all graduating nations globally, according to a new United Nations report.
- The figure represents nearly a third of the country's USD 54.8bn in total exports recorded in 2023, according to the Trade Preferences Outlook 2025, published by the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/ldc-graduation-could-cost-bangladesh-175b-exports-unctad-4140501>

Tax on the wealthy may rise; inheritance tax under review

April 01, 2026

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) is considering raising taxes on wealthy individuals in the budget of the next fiscal year.
- The tax authority is also planning to review the wealth tax and introduce an inheritance tax to boost government revenue collection, NBR Chairman Abdur Rahman Khan said on Tuesday.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/tax-on-the-wealthy-may-rise-inheritance-tax-under-review>

NBR to introduce quarterly tax filing

April 01, 2026

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) is going to introduce a year-round, quarterly tax return submission system starting from the upcoming fiscal year 2026-27 as part of a comprehensive reform suite designed to drive Bangladesh's

transition into a welfare state, said its Chairman Md Abdur Rahman Khan yesterday.

- He announced the initiative during a pre-budget meeting, noting that the new system aims to revolutionize tax compliance while bolstering national revenue through structural changes, including the reintroduction of wealth tax and the potential launch of an inheritance tax.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/nbr-introduce-quarterly-tax-filing-4140406>

Banking

Finance ministry to release funds for liquidating 6 NBFIs in July: BB governor

April 01, 2026

- Finance Ministry to release BDT 56bn (USD 0.46bn) crore in two phases to liquidate 6 NBFIs; BB to appoint administrators upon first tranche and prioritize repayment of individual depositors.
- 20 distressed NBFIs hold BDT 258.1bn (USD 2.12bn) in loans with 83.16pc default against BDT 69bn (USD 0.57bn) collateral; sector contrast shows 15 healthy NBFIs with 7.31pc default rate.

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/finance-ministry-release-funds-liquidating-6-nbfis-july-bb-governor-1398266>

Trade and Commerce

Govt approves import of 0.26mn tons of fuel oil

April 01, 2026

- The Cabinet Committee on Government Purchase (CCGP) yesterday approved the import of another 0.26mn tons of fuel oil, as the government moves to safeguard national energy reserves against the backdrop of the US-Israel war on Iran.
- The committee authorized the direct purchase of 0.1mn tons of crude oil from Abeer Trade Global Markets.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/govt-approves-import-26-lakh-tonnes-fuel-oil-4140476>

Tanker carrying 30,000 tons of diesel from Malaysia reaches Ctg Port

April 01, 2026

- A vessel carrying 30,000 tons of refined diesel has arrived at Chittagong Port from Malaysia amid concerns over energy supply linked to Middle East tensions.
- The tanker "PVT Solana" reached the Alpha Anchorage on Tuesday, said Port Secretary Syed Refayet Hamim.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/tanker-carrying-30000-tonnes-of-diesel-from-malaysia-reaches-ctg-port>

Fuel prices remain unchanged in April

April 01, 2026

- Despite pressures on the energy sector from ongoing Middle East conflicts, the government has kept retail fuel prices unchanged for April.
- The Energy and Mineral Resources Division on Tuesday said, under the "Automatic Fuel Price Determination Guidelines (Amendment)", the authority has approved the continuation of existing retail rates.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/fuel-prices-remain-unchanged-in-april>

Urea stocks sufficient to meet demand till mid-July: Agriculture Minister

April 01, 2026

- Agriculture Minister Mohammad Amin Ur Rashid Tuesday said the government has secured a sufficient stock of urea fertilizer to meet national demand until mid-July and is actively negotiating with international partners to ensure future supplies.
- Responding to a supplementary question from an independent lawmaker elected from Brahmanbaria-2 Rumeen Farhana, the minister confirmed to the Parliament that discussions are currently underway with Qatar and Saudi Arabia—Bangladesh's primary urea suppliers.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/urea-stocks-sufficient-to-meet-demand-till-mid-july-agriculture-minister>

Inland cargo transport at risk as lighters starved of fuel

April 01, 2026

- Lighter vessels are facing fuel shortages that are slowing and disrupting their regular operations to unload cargo from mother ships at Chattogram port's outer anchorage.
- Besides, smaller vessels that have managed to unload cargo from mother vessels cannot head to around 50 inland destinations across the country, as fuel supplies remain insufficient.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/inland-cargo-transport-risk-lighters-starved-fuel-4140181>

No plan for free fertilizer at the moment: Agriculture minister

April 01, 2026

- Agriculture Minister Mohammed Aminur Rashid told parliament that the government currently has no plans to provide free fertilizer and agricultural products to farmers across the country.

- However, in order to increase agricultural production and support farming, 26 lakh metric tons of urea, 9.50 lakh metric tons of TSP, 10.50 lakh metric tons of muriate of potash (MOP) and 16.85 lakh metric tons of DAP fertilizer have been supplied to farmers at subsidized prices in the fiscal year 2025-26, he said

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/agriculture/news/no-plan-free-fertiliser-the-moment-agriculture-minister-4140116>

Corporate

Bank Asia named IFC's top trade finance issuing bank in South Asia

April 01, 2026

- Bank Asia PLC has been honoured with the "Best GTFP Issuing Bank in South Asia" award by the International Finance Corporation (IFC) in recognition of its excellence in facilitating international trade.
- The global recognition places Bank Asia alongside leading international financial institutions such as Standard Chartered Bank and Deutsche Bank, underscoring the award's significance and competitive stature, according to a press release.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/organisation-news/news/bank-asia-named-ifcs-top-trade-finance-issuing-bank-south-asia-4140441>

Capital Market

City Sugar get nod for zero-coupon bonds

April 01, 2026

- City Sugar Industries will collect BDT 13bn (USD 0.11bn) through a three-year zero-coupon bond. The bond will be 100pc secured (mortgage-backed), non-convertible and fully redeemable, carrying an approximate discount rate of 13.5pc.
- The proceeds will be utilized to repay existing high-cost liabilities to banks and financial institutions. BRAC EPL Investments will act as trustee, while BRAC Bank will serve as the arranger. The bond will be listed on the Alternative Trading Board (ATB).

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/city-sugar-sajida-foundation-get-nod-for-zero-coupon-bonds>

BSEC orders deeper probe into Shahjalal Equity over ACME IPO fraud

April 01, 2026

- The stock market watchdog has ordered a further investigation into Shahjalal Equity Management to substantiate preliminary findings that the issue manager failed to raise the alarm when ACME

Pesticides raised public funds using fabricated financial statements.

- Based on the findings, to be reported within 30 working days from the issuance of the order on Sunday, the securities commission may cancel the license of the merchant bank.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/bsec-orders-deeper-probe-into-shahjalal-equity-over-acme-ipo-fraud>

Regulator approves Bangladesh's first Orange bond worth BDT 1.58bn (USD 12.95mn)

April 01, 2026

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission has approved the issuance of an Orange bond, the first of its kind in the country, by SAJIDA Foundation to raise BDT 1.58bn (USD 12.95mn) to finance women's economic empowerment and accelerate progress towards gender equality
- The zero-coupon bond, a debt that pays no interest but is sold at a deep discount, marks a major milestone in Bangladesh's capital market evolution, said a press release by BRAC EPL Investments Ltd.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/regulator-approves-bangladeshs-first-orange-bond-worth-BDT-1585-crore-4139771>

International

Gold set for worst month in more than 17 years as US rate-cut hopes fade

April 01, 2026

- Gold prices rose on Tuesday on hopes of de-escalation in the Middle East conflict, but were poised for their worst month in more than 17 years as higher energy prices dimmed hopes for a US interest rate cut this year.
- Spot gold was up 1.5pc at USD 4,578.89 per ounce, as of 0235 GMT.

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/world/global-economy/gold-set-worst-month-more-17-years-us-rate-cut-hopes-fade-1398381>

China's factory activity expands at quickest pace in a year

April 01, 2026

- China's factory activity expanded in March at its quickest pace in a year, official data showed on Tuesday, ending a two-month slump as production picked up after the annual Spring Festival holiday.
- The world's second-largest economy has been struggling with a slowdown in domestic demand

and investment in recent years that has weighed on its vast manufacturing sector.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/chinas-factory-activity-expands-quickest-pace-year-4140451>

Indian rupee hits fresh record low

April 01, 2026

- India's rupee fell to a record low of more than 95 to the dollar on Monday, before recovering, despite recent efforts by the central bank to stem its fall.
- The rupee was among Asia's worst forex performers in 2025, and its underperformance has continued well into this year, hitting new lows on a regular basis.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/indian-rupee-hits-fresh-record-low-4140456>

Asia barter for scarce energy as Iran crisis throttles supplies

April 01, 2026

- Indonesia's leader visited Tokyo this week in Asia's latest flurry of fuel bartering efforts to offset crippling shortages caused by conflict in the Middle East, a key source of regional energy supplies.
- The race for alternatives has hotted up as China, the world's second largest economy, imposed fuel export bans, while nations such as South Korea and Thailand try to exploit the lifting of US sanctions on Russian energy as a stopgap move

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/asia-barter-scarce-energy-iran-crisis-throttles-supplies-4140466>

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Morning Newsflash

Wednesday, 01 April, 2026

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