Economy

Forex reserves stay above USD 31bn (BPM6) after ACU payment

July 09, 2026

- Under the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual, sixth edition (BPM6), the reserves declined to USD 31.87bn from USD 33.20bn, after the country settled USD 1.48bn in import payments to Asian Clearing Union (ACU) member countries.
- Robust remittance inflows, lower import demand and Bangladesh Bank's dollar purchases from commercial banks helped keep the reserves at a comfortable level, Bangladesh Bank officials said.

From: https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/forex-reserves-stay-above-365b-after-acu-payment

Financial account rebounds to over USD 4b surplus in 11 months

July 09, 2026

- The balance of payments data, released by the Bangladesh Bank on 8 July, indicates that a sharp turnaround in trade credit was the primary driver behind this financial account surplus.
- The trade credit position – which involves short-term capital flows from deferred payments on imports – surged to a surplus of USD 2.90bn during the July-May period, recovering from a deep deficit of USD 2.57bn recorded during the corresponding period of FY25.

From: https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/financial-account-rebounds-over-4b-surplus-11-months-1483506

Bangladesh economy to grow 4.4pc in FY27: HSBC

July 09, 2026

- Bangladesh’s economy is expected to grow by 4.4pc in the current fiscal year 2026-27, supported by easing global headwinds and domestic economic reforms, according to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) Limited.
- Lower oil prices, a stabilizing outlook for US tariffs and resilient global growth should help revive Bangladesh’s export sector, the multinational lender forecast, while reforms undertaken at home are expected to strengthen private investment and consumption.

From: https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladesh-economy-grow-44-fy27-hsbc-4219116

Govt tightens the belt with fresh spending curbs

July 09, 2026

- The government has imposed a fresh round of austerity measures for the fiscal year 2026-27, restricting spending on new vehicles, buildings, land acquisition and most foreign travel to rein in public expenditure, curb inflation and preserve macroeconomic stability.
- In a circular issued yesterday, the Finance Division directed all ministries, departments, autonomous bodies, state-owned enterprises, statutory organizations and public sector corporations to cut costs from both operating and development budgets.

From: https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/govt-tightens-the-belt-fresh-spending-curbs-4219396

Current account deficit narrows on record remittances

July 09, 2026

- The country’s current account deficit narrowed in the first 11 months of fiscal year 2025-26, helped by record remittance inflows, although weak economic activity continued to hold back trade and investment.
- During the July-May period of FY26, the current account deficit stood at USD 301mn, down from USD 778mn in the same period of the previous fiscal year, according to the latest Bangladesh Bank (BB) data.
- The current account measures a country’s trade in goods and services, cross-border income flows, and current transfers such as remittances and foreign aid. It tracks the net flow of goods, services and income between a country and the rest of the world.

From: https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/current-account-deficit-narrows-record-remittances-4219386

Discord between sponsor, regulators holds back ADB sponsored bond launch, benefits

July 09, 2026

- Umpteen differences of opinion between the Asian Development Bank and the Bangladeshi financial-sector regulatory agencies delay the launch of ADB-sponsored taka-denominated bonds for both local and global subscriptions, officials say. The Manila-based lender plans to introduce the local-currency bonds first on the domestic market and later for overseas subscription.
- Sources say in the proposal the ADB has sought an evergreen approval from the ministry of finance to undertake local-currency operations on

a recurring basis as its bond issuances are linked to multiple projects that may require extended implementation periods. However, the regulator argues that there should be a defined time limit.

- Also, the ADB has sought permission from the government to allow local investors or resident institutions to buy local-currency bond without prior approval from the regulator concerned. The regulator stated that resident institutions do not have a general permission to purchase bonds from non-resident institution like ADB.
- The ADB also sought approval for exchange of bonds proceeds into other currencies which the government agencies find the basis for this request "not clear" as the funds are intended for investment in Bangladesh.

From: https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/discord-between-sponsor-regulators-holds-back-bond-launch-benefits

Banking

Bangladesh has world's second-highest NPL rate after war-hit Ukraine

July 09, 2026

- The country also has the highest NPL ratio among Saarc nations, highlighting growing concerns over weak credit discipline, politically influenced lending and poor loan recovery.
- According to the latest banking data, Ukraine tops the global list with an NPL ratio of 37.35pc, largely reflecting the economic destruction caused by the ongoing war. Bangladesh follows with an NPL ratio of 32.26pc, ahead of Chad (31.51pc) and Guinea (31.15pc).

From: https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bangladesh-has-worlds-second-highest-npl-rate-after-war-hit-ukraine-1482606

Islamic banking deposits up 8.35pc in Q1

July 09, 2026

- Bangladesh's Islamic banking system posted strong deposit growth in the first quarter of 2026, as more customers placed their money with Islamic banks as well as Islamic banking branches and windows operated by conventional banks.
- Deposits at Islamic banks rose 8.35pc year-on-year to BDT 4.79tn (USD 39.26bn) at the end of March 2026, up from BDT 4.42tn (USD 36.23bn) a year earlier, according to Bangladesh Bank's (BB) quarterly report published yesterday.

From: https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/islamic-banking-deposits-835-q1-4219371

Capital Market

Intech sinks to junk category as losses wipe out paid-up capital

July 09, 2026

- The regulatory move, effective from 8 July, follows a mandatory policy by the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission requiring companies with negative retained earnings exceeding their total paid-up capital to be shifted to the lowest trading tier.
- The announcement triggered an immediate sell-off, causing Intech's share price to hit the lower circuit breaker, plunging 9.77pc to close at BDT 31.40 (USD 0.26). Under the BSEC (Margin) Rules 2025, stockbrokers and merchant bankers are now strictly prohibited from providing margin loan facilities to investors for purchasing Intech securities.

From: https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/intech-sinks-junk-category-losses-wipe-out-paid-capital-1483456

Zeal Bangla Sugar Mills' trade suspended on suspicion of price manipulation

July 09, 2026

- The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) on Tuesday suspended trading of Zeal Bangla Sugar Mills after detecting an abnormal stock price surge even as the company remains burdened with massive accumulated losses.
- Zeal Bangla's trading suspension is the latest regulatory intervention as the prime bourse strengthens market surveillance under the newly formed securities commission to protect investors and maintain market integrity.

From: https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bangladesh/zeal-bangla-sugar-mills-trade-suspended-on-suspicion-of-price-manipulation

International

Oil jumps 5pc after Trump says deal with Iran 'over'

July 09, 2026

- Oil prices jumped more than 5pc on Wednesday, hitting a two-week high after US President Donald Trump said the memorandum of understanding to end the conflict with Iran was "over", renewing fears of disruptions to Middle East oil supplies.
- Brent crude futures gained USD 3.82, or 5.15pc, hitting USD 77.98 a barrel at 0832 GMT, while US West Texas Intermediate crude climbed USD 3.70, or 5.25pc, to USD 74.14 a barrel. The benchmarks are at their highest levels since June 23.

From: https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/oil-jumps-5-after-trump-says-deal-iran-over-4219356

IMF lowers 2026 world growth forecast
July 09, 2026

- The IMF on Wednesday cut its 2026 growth projection for the world economy again, saying an AI boom has not fully offset the fallout from war in the Middle East.
- Global economic growth is now estimated at 3.0pc this year, the International Monetary Fund said, down from 3.1pc in its April forecast. The estimate was made before fresh exchanges of fire between the United States and Iran in recent hours.

From: https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/imf-lowers-2026-world-growth-forecast-4219351

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