

Economy

Nearly BDT 120bn (USD 983.6mn) of private sector stimulus disbursed

October 19, 2026

- Bangladesh Bank has disbursed around BDT 120bn (USD 983.6mn) of its BDT 600bn (USD 4.92bn) stimulus package by mid-October to revive struggling businesses, reopen closed factories and boost investment and employment.
- More than BDT 25bn (USD 204.9mn) was still in the process of being disbursed, according to the central bank's latest progress report.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/nearly-tk-12000cr-private-sector-stimulus-disbursed-4302051>

Prior approval suspended for boiler imports

October 19, 2026

- The government has suspended the requirement for prior approval from the chief boiler inspector before importing boilers and boiler components, a move industry leaders say will ease imports by reducing bureaucratic delays.
- In a circular issued by Bangladesh Bank has informed authorized dealer (AD) banks involved in foreign exchange transactions of the suspension.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/prior-approval-suspended-boiler-imports-4302071>

Capital Market

Submarine Cables' profit jumps 37pc in FY26 as bandwidth demand grows

October 19, 2026

- Bangladesh Submarine Cables (BSC) registered 37pc year-on-year growth in profit, to BDT 2.83bn, in FY26, backed by revenue growth.
- According to company officials, revenue grew 25pc to BDT 4.95bn in FY26 from the year before, mainly due to increasing demand for the company's core bandwidth services.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/bangladesh/submarine-cables-profit-jumps-37pc-in-fy26-as-bandwidth-demand-grows>

BSEC proposes 50pc IPO debt repayment cap, mandatory escrow accounts

October 19, 2026

- Under the draft amendments to the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (Public Offer of Equity Securities) Rules, 2025, companies would have to undergo pre-IPO verification by a BSEC-listed auditor before applying. The draft also tightens disclosure requirements for share pricing.

Stock exchanges would get a 20-day deadline to review IPO applications and inspect companies' factories or business premises.

- The draft was published on 18 October, and the commission has invited comments, suggestions and objections within two weeks. The proposed changes have not yet been finalized.

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bsec-proposes-50-ipo-debt-repayment-cap-mandatory-escrow-accounts-1576896>

International

Vietnam signs free trade deal with four EU nations

October 19, 2026

- Vietnam and four European nations outside the EU signed a free trade agreement in Hanoi on Sunday, seeking to diversify their markets as US tariffs disrupt global commerce.
- The deal, between Southeast Asia's fastest-growing economy and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), which includes Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland, eliminates or reduces customs duties, including on imports of industrial, fish and agricultural products.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/vietnam-signs-free-trade-deal-four-eu-nations-4302106>

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