

Economy

Govt aims to raise tax-GDP ratio to over 10.5pc by FY35

September 03, 2025

- The government aims to raise the tax-to-GDP ratio to 10.5pc by FY35 through a Medium- and Long-Term Revenue Strategy (MLTRS) for FY26–FY35, focusing on automation, stronger compliance and transparent enforcement. Currently, Bangladesh's tax-to-GDP ratio stands at 7.3 pc - one of the lowest in South Asia.
- Increasing direct tax yields, easing filing procedures, expanding digital platforms, and intensifying revenue collection efforts are some of the critical steps needed to be taken. Also, if addressed, an estimated USD 15-20bn lost annually through money laundering could significantly expand the tax base.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/govt-aims-to-raise-tax-gdp-ratio-to-over-10pc-by-fy35>

Merchandise exports record 2.93pc decline in August

September 03, 2025

- Merchandise exports fell 2.93pc in August to USD 3.91bn, led by RMG which dropped 4.75pc to USD 3.16bn (knit -6.34pc to USD 1.77bn; woven -2.65pc to USD 1.39bn).
- Overall export earnings rose 10.61pc to USD 8.68bn in July–August after a 25pc surge in July to USD 4.77bn, showing early fiscal-year resilience despite August's slowdown.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/export-earnings-register-1061pc-growth-in-july-august>

Govt to digitize security clearance for foreign investors through BIDA OSS by mid-Sept

September 03, 2025

- The government will fully digitize the security clearance process for work permits of foreign investors and foreign workers through the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority's (Bida) Online One Stop Service (OSS) portal by mid-September.
- Under the new system, all security clearance procedures will be processed digitally, with documentation requirements streamlined according to a recent Home Ministry circular. Applications that will be submitted with all mandatory documents but remain un-cleared within 21 working days will be treated as free of security objections, and the applicants' visas will be automatically extended.

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/govt-digitise-security-clearance-foreign-investors-through-bida-oss-mid-sept-1227386>

Govt issues revised ordinance on NBR split, abolition

September 03, 2025

- The government issued a revised ordinance to fully abolish the National Board of Revenue (NBR) and split its functions into two divisions—Revenue Policy (handling tax policy, research and international agreements) and Revenue Management (handling collection, enforcement, and HR).
- The amendment clears earlier ambiguity over who can head each division: Revenue Policy leadership is open to officials experienced in macroeconomics, trade policy and planning, while Revenue Management will be led specifically by experienced revenue-collection officials.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govt-issues-revised-ordinance-nbr-split-abolition-3976626>

Trade & Commerce

Commercial court law to be drafted within a month

September 03, 2025

- The government will draft a law to set up a commercial court within a month to speed up resolution of business disputes, aiming to cut judicial delays and improve investment confidence.
- Around 4 million cases remain unresolved across lower and higher courts, Bangladesh ranked 189th out of 190 in contract enforcement, and nearly 25,000 cases are pending in money-loan courts.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/commercial-court-law-be-drafted-within-month-3977286>

Vanilla may become BD's new cash crop

September 03, 2025

- Vanilla could soon become a new cash crop for Bangladesh as six years of research by the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI) has confirmed its feasibility under local weather conditions. Vanilla beans are one of the world's most expensive spices, widely used in ice cream, cakes, and bakery products.
- If commercialized, experts believe it could diversify Bangladesh's agricultural basket, boost rural earnings, and position the country in the global spice trade.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/vanilla-may-become-bds-new-cash-crop-soon>

After 17 years of delay, govt forms Dairy Development Board

September 03, 2025

- Domestic annual demand for milk and dairy products stands at about 16.20mn tons, while production is around 15.50mn tons, leaving a gap filled by roughly USD 320mn in annual imports.
- The interim government formed a Dairy Development Board via a gazette notification, aiming to boost domestic milk production, ensure fair prices for farmers and reduce import dependence to improve nutritional security.
- Last fiscal year Bangladesh imported milk and milk products worth USD 443.13mn, about seven times higher than USD 57.44mn recorded in FY09-10.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/after-17-years-delay-govt-forms-dairy-development-board-3977231>

Energy & Power

12-kg LPG price cut by BDT 3 (USD 0.025) per cylinder

September 03, 2025

- Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) has cut the retail price of 12kg LPG by BDT 3 (USD 0.025) setting the price at BDT 1,270 (USD 10.41) down from BDT 1,273 (USD 10.4).
- The new price is said to come into effect from Tuesday (September 2) evening.

From: <https://www.observerbd.com/news/542280>

Govt to purchase LNG, fertilizers worth BDT 20bn (USD 163.9mn)

September 03, 2025

- The Cabinet Committee on Government Purchase approved importing one cargo of LNG from TotalEnergies (UK) at USD 39.86mn and fertilizers worth a total of USD 164.38mn via multiple supplier contracts.
- Fertilizer deals include 40,000 tons of DAP from Saudi Arabia (USD 32.05mn), 35,000 tons of MOP from Russia (USD 12.74mn), 30,000 tons of TSP from Morocco (USD 176.70mn), another 40,000 tons of DAP from China (USD 31.97mn), 20,000 tons of phosphoric acid from UAE (USD 15.70mn), and 30,000 tons of urea (USD 14.30mn).

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govt-purchase-lng-fertilisers-worth-tk-2000cr-3976961>

RMG

Import ban on Bangladeshi RMG triggers supply crunch in India

September 03, 2025

- Leading international clothing retailers in India, including Marks & Spencer, H&M, Zudio, and Lifestyle, are facing supply shortages and two to three-week sourcing delays due to ban on garment imports from Bangladesh via land routes by India's DGFT on May 17.
- India's imports of garments from Bangladesh stood at USD 254.44mn in January-June, up 3.5pc from USD 245.84mn a year earlier, though some industry executives say land-port shipments have dropped 25pc year-on-year.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/import-ban-bangladeshi-rmg-triggers-supply-crunch-india-3976876>

Govt seeks Interpol red notice against owners of 3 RMG factories

September 03, 2025

- The government has asked Interpol to issue red notices for the owners of three RMG factories - TNZ Group managing director Shahadat Hossain Shamim; Dird Group chairman Itemad Ud Daulah and managing director Nabeel Ud Daulah; and Roar Fashion managing director Mamunul Islam.
- All of them are accused of failing to pay workers' wages and remaining abroad for extended periods, among other allegations. The initiative follows cases filed with the labour court in Gazipur and the first and third labour courts in Dhaka.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/govt-seeks-interpol-red-notice-against-owners-3-rmg-factories-3976806>

Corporate

Renata continues UK market expansion with hormonal drug

September 03, 2025

- Renata PLC, has launched Fludrocortisone 0.1mg tablets in the UK, expanding its growing portfolio in this key market, the company said in a press release. It boasts a market advantage as the tablets remain stable at storage temperatures below 25°C compared to competitors.
- The drug is supplied from Renata's UK MHRA (Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency)-approved potent product facility.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/renata-continues-uk-market-expansion-hormonal-drug-3976901>

Capital Market

BO account fee cut to BDT 150 (USD 1.23), effective from this fiscal year

September 03, 2025

- The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has cut the annual fee for maintaining Beneficiary Owners' (BO) accounts to BDT 150 (USD 1.23), down from BDT 450 (USD 3.7). Under the revised structure, BDT 50 (USD 0.4) from the fee will go to each of the depository, the depository participants, and the BSEC.
- The new fee is said to apply from the current fiscal year (FY) 2025-26. A formal notification on the change is expected to be issued.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bo-account-fee-cut-tk-150-effective-fiscal-year-3976996>

International

Gold races to all-time high above USD 3,500

September 03, 2025

- Gold prices scaled the USD 3,500 per ounce level to hit a record high on Tuesday, as mounting expectations for a U.S. Federal Reserve interest rate cut this month lifted demand for the precious metal. Spot gold was up 0.1pc at USD 3,480.57 per ounce as of 11:25 GMT, after hitting a record high of USD 3,508.50 earlier in the session. Bullion has gained 32pc so far this year.
- Money markets price about a 90pc chance of a 25bp Fed cut on Sept 17, lifting demand for non-yielding gold and supporting the rally.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/gold-races-all-time-high-above-3500-3977251>

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Morning Newsflash

Wednesday, 03 September, 2025

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