

Economy

Subsidised food distribution falls, raising poverty concerns

October 11, 2026

- Foodgrain distribution at subsidized rates declined in the first quarter of the current fiscal year, mainly because of a fall in open market sales (OMS), raising concerns about the impact on poverty and food security.
- Government agencies, including the Directorate General of Food, distributed 7.55 lakh tons of grains in the July-September period of fiscal year 2026-27, down 7pc from the same period a year earlier, according to food ministry data.

From:

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/subsidised-food-distribution-falls-raising-poverty-concerns-4295331>

Banking

For new loan, IMF may seek deadline for fixing weak banks

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- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is likely to seek time-bound measures to resolve problems in vulnerable banks and set specific targets and deadlines for domestic revenue collection as conditions for a new loan programme, according to government officials.
- The possible conditions will be discussed when a Bangladesh delegation led by the finance minister meets senior IMF officials in Bangkok later this week on the sidelines of the IMF-World Bank Annual Meetings, scheduled for October 12-17, finance ministry officials confirmed to The Daily Star on condition of anonymity.

From:

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/new-loan-imf-may-seek-deadline-fixing-weak-banks-4295336>

Trade and Commerce

Govt in talks with Singapore's PSA to operate more Ctg Port terminals: Minister

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- "The government has already taken steps to bring APM Terminals into the operation of the Laldia Terminal, while discussions with PSA and other leading operators are ongoing," the minister said at a press conference following the signing of an agreement with Dubai-based global port operator DP World to operate and manage the New Mooring Container Terminal (NCT) at Chattogram Port.
- The signing ceremony was held at Invest Bangladesh's office in Dhaka's Agargaon.

From:

<https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/nct-deal-safeguards-bangladeshs-interests-rabiul-1566721>

Money changers can now sell up to USD 3,000 against travel entitlement

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- Bangladesh Bank has raised the amount of US dollar notes and coins that licensed money changers can sell at a time to outbound Bangladeshi travellers to USD 3,000 from USD 2,000, to ease their foreign exchange needs.
- In a circular issued today, the central bank allowed licensed money changers to sell the higher amount against travellers' annual private travel entitlement.

From:

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/money-changers-can-now-sell-3000-against-travel-entitlement-4293671>

Steelmakers pin hopes on revival of govt projects

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- The resumption of public infrastructure projects has raised hopes of a recovery among steelmakers, who have been struggling with weak demand, rising costs and financial pressure. However, a lasting recovery will depend on whether renewed construction activity translates into stronger steel sales.
- Steel demand declined mainly because public construction and government infrastructure projects slowed after the political changeover in August 2024, said Sumon Chowdhury, secretary general of the Bangladesh Steel Manufacturers Association (BSMA).

From:

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/steelmakers-pin-hopes-revival-govt-projects-4295346>

Telecom

BTRC puts BDT 500 emergency balance proposal on hold

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- The Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) is considering a proposal to raise the maximum Emergency Balance (EB) limit for mobile subscribers from BDT 200 to BDT 500, but has put the proposal on hold for now to scrutinise the conditions attached to the service and ensure that customers are not adversely affected.
- "We want to increase the Emergency Balance limit, but we need to study the conditions first. Different conditions are attached to different services, so we need to evaluate them carefully to ensure that

customers do not suffer,” Md Emdad ul Bari, chairman of the BTRC, told The Daily Star.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/btrc-puts-tk-500-emergency-balance-proposal-hold-4295391>

Capital Market

Market size key hurdle to emerging status for Bangladesh: FTSE Russell

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- Bangladesh's capital market has recently met some key requirements for elevation to emerging status. Still, the main criterion it falls short of is the required market size, according to global index provider FTSE Russell.
- A report that FTSE Russell published this week says that, to be upgraded to emerging market status, Bangladesh must have at least five eligible stocks, each with an investable market value of at least USD 150mn, and a combined market value of at least USD 11.54bn. Eight securities meet the first threshold, but together they lag far behind the USD 11.54-bn mark.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/bangladesh/market-size-key-hurdle-to-emerging-status-for-bangladesh-ftse-russell>

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