

Economy

Foreign aid use jumps 64pc in July-August

September 29, 2025

- Bangladesh used USD 750mn in foreign aid during July–August this year, a 64pc rise from the same period last year after protest-related disruption eased, improving project disbursements but increasing near-term reliance on donor financing.
- Russia led disbursements with USD 315.40mn, USD 254mn from the World Bank and USD 99.12mn from ADB in July–August, concentrating aid flows and signaling donor-specific pacing that will shape sectoral investments.
- Government external debt servicing reached BDT 81.31bn (USD 667.63mn) in July–August, a 17pc year-on-year rise as principal and interest payments climbed, tightening fiscal space and raising near-term external liquidity pressures.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/foreign-aid-use-jumps-64-july-august-3997116>

One in three graduates remains jobless for up to 2yrs

September 29, 2025

- One in three university graduates remained unemployed for up to two years, creating long-term scarring that reduces lifetime earnings and career progression. It also signals a major mismatch between graduate output and available formal jobs.
- There were 2.62mn unemployed people in 2024, including 0.89mn university graduates, underscoring youth underemployment and a sizeable educated jobless pool that strains social safety nets and limits productive workforce participation.
- Experts say poor education quality, teacher shortages and a decade of stagnant private investment created a skills gap, leaving graduates unprepared for market needs and limiting job creation unless training and business investment scale up.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/one-three-graduates-remains-jobless-2yrs-3997146>

US buyers push Bangladeshi exporters to partly absorb tariff costs

September 29, 2025

- Many US buyers are now pushing suppliers to absorb 5–7pc of the cost or more, forcing price concessions that cut already thin margins. Some factories accept losses to keep orders.
- Bangladesh's shipments to the US rose 22pc to USD 4.92bn between January and July, but higher

effective duties, about 36.5pc now, erode tariff-driven gains and narrow the country's competitive advantage.

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/rmg/us-buyers-push-bangladeshi-exporters-partly-absorb-tariff-costs-1247541>

Banking

New rules bar bank officials, directors from shariah committees

September 29, 2025

- Banks will have to form independent "shariah supervisory committees" under a new guideline issued by the Bangladesh Bank, which bars directors, executives, and their family members from serving on such bodies.
- The guideline, set to come into effect on January 1, 2026, states that the committee members will not be allowed to have any business interest in the bank, nor ties to any entity owned or controlled by its directors. In addition, no member of their families may be included in the board of directors of the said bank or companies.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/banks/news/new-rules-bar-bank-officials-directors-shariah-committees-3997131>

Policy twist to state-guaranteed SDF reviving call-money market

September 29, 2025

- BB cut the state-guaranteed SDF rate by 50 bps to 8.0pc and has bought USD 1.88bn since July 13, injecting liquidity that lifted call-money trades from BDT 888bn (USD 7.29bn) to BDT 1.16tn (USD 9.52bn).
- Lenders parked BDT 727bn (USD 5.97bn) in low-yield SDF in June, while monthly SDF usage fell to BDT 261bn (USD 2.14bn) and BDT 267bn (USD 2.19bn) in July and August respectively.
- The regulator's goal is to discourage SDF hoarding and nudge banks into the call-money market so they meet CRR/SLR and liquidity needs without relying on assured central-bank support. However, sustained recovery will need stronger investment demand.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/policy-twist-to-state-guaranteed-sdf-reviving-call-money-market-1>

Bangladesh Bank revises transaction hours for RTGS system

September 29, 2025

- Bangladesh Bank has revised the transaction hours for RTGS which will take effect from October 5. Customer transaction hours have been moved

to 10 am to 5 pm and foreign-currency customer transactions to 10 am to 4 pm, with interbank fund transfers extended to 10 am to 5:15 pm.

- From 4 pm to 5 pm customer transactions will be limited to online channels, including internet banking, mobile apps and corporate solutions. RTGS services will be available on all working days except weekends and government holidays.

From:

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/bangladesh-bank-revises-transaction-hours-for-rtgs-system>

Trade and Commerce

Ceramics makers battered by real estate slump, credit crunch

September 29, 2025

- Bangladesh's ceramic industry faces its worst downturn in over a decade, with tiles and sanitaryware demand collapsing by up to 30pc over two years, driven by a prolonged real estate slump, paused public projects and a banking liquidity crunch.
- Smaller, tile-only firms risk closure as producers fight a brutal price war. Larger groups can absorb losses, but factories are operating significantly below capacity and many are selling below cost to move inventory, threatening industry consolidation.
- Local manufacturers meet 87.29pc of domestic demand. BCMEA cites combined annual capacity and domestic consumption at about USD 633mn for tiles, USD 180mn for sanitaryware and USD 75mn for tableware, underscoring sector scale.

From:

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/ceramics-makers-battered-real-estate-slump-credit-crunch-3997141>

Corporate

Apex Footwear's profit falls 23pc

September 29, 2025

- Apex Footwear Ltd has reported a sharp decline in annual profit, prompting the company to recommend a lower cash dividend compared with the previous year. Its net profit dropped by 23pc year-on-year to BDT 135.5mn (USD 1.11mn) for the year ended June 30, 2025. The board of directors have recommended a 25pc cash dividend and 25pc stock dividend for FY25.
- EPS fell to BDT 8.62 (USD 0.07) from BDT 11.22 (USD 0.09) a year earlier. Net operating cash flow per share slid to BDT 56.48 (USD 0.46) from BDT 165.88 (USD 1.36)

From:

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/apex-footwears-profit-falls-23-3996651>

Envoy Textiles' profits double to BDT 1.4bn (USD 11.5mn)

September 29, 2025

- Envoy Textiles, a listed textile manufacturer, saw its profits double to BDT 1.4bn (USD 11.50mn) in 2024-25 fiscal year, driven mainly by higher sales. The board of directors declared a 30pc cash dividend for FY25.
- The world's first LEED Platinum-certified denim textile mill disclosed today that its EPS rose to BDT 8.40 (USD 0.07) from BDT 3.58 (USD 0.03) in 2023-24, according to a disclosure posted on the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) website. Net asset value per share has gone up to BDT 58 (USD 0.48) from BDT 52 (USD 0.43).

From:

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/envoy-textiles-profits-double-tk-140-crore-3996681>

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