

Economy

BB holds the line as risks mount

September 24, 2026

- The Bangladesh Bank (BB) has kept its main interest rate unchanged at 9.50pc, citing volatile global energy prices, a recent increase in domestic fuel prices and the introduction of a new pay scale for public employees as risks to inflation.
- The central bank said it would assess the impact of domestic and global shocks before making any changes to the policy rate.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bb-holds-the-line-risks-mount-4281451>

ADB approves USD 200m loan to modernise Bangladesh power distribution network

September 24, 2026

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a USD 200mn loan to help Bangladesh modernise and strengthen its power distribution network in peri-urban areas surrounding Dhaka, improving the reliability, efficiency and resilience of electricity supply for businesses and households.
- The Power Distribution Network Enhancement Project will support the Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board (BREB) in upgrading electricity distribution infrastructure across 13 Palli Bidyut Samities (PBSs)—or electric cooperatives—serving rapidly growing industrial and urban areas around Dhaka.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/bangladesh/adb-approves-200m-loan-to-modernise-bangladesh-power-distribution-network>

Taka gains ground against Indian rupee, strengthens 11.6pc in 2 yrs

September 24, 2026

- The Bangladeshi Taka has strengthened significantly against the Indian rupee over the past two years, gaining around 11.6pc in value against the Indian currency, including a 7.6pc gain over the past year compared to September 22, 2025.
- According to exchange-rate data, BDT 1 was equivalent to around Rs. 0.781 on September 22, 2026, compared to about Rs. 0.726 on September 22, 2025 and around Rs. 0.700 on September 22, 2024.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/bangladesh/taka-gains-ground-against-indian-rupee-strengthens-116pc-in-2-yrs>

Banking

BB allows cross-border trade settlement in taka through vostro accounts

September 24, 2026

- Bangladesh Bank has introduced a framework allowing eligible cross-border trade transactions to be settled in taka through Non-Resident Taka (vostro) accounts maintained by authorized dealer (AD) banks for correspondent banks in trading partner countries.
- Under the existing system, AD banks could open taka vostro accounts for their overseas branches and correspondent banks against inward remittances in freely convertible currencies.
- According to the circular, balances in these accounts can be used to settle export proceeds from Bangladesh and other permitted transactions. Letters of credit, contracts and invoices will continue to be denominated in freely convertible or other admissible currencies. The invoiced amounts will be converted into taka at the prevailing exchange rate for settlement through the vostro accounts.

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/bb-allows-cross-border-trade-settlement-taka-through-vostro-accounts-1551361>

Capital Market

DSE targets 10 blue-chip listings by 2027

September 24, 2026

- The Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) aims to bring at least 10 blue-chip companies to the capital market by 2027 through direct listing or initial public offerings (IPOs).
- The companies may include state-owned enterprises, multinational companies or reputed domestic firms.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/bangladesh/dse-targets-10-blue-chip-listings-by-2027-2028>

Trade and Commerce

Cox's Bazar International Airport set for October launch

September 24, 2026

- Cox's Bazar International Airport is expected to be inaugurated in the third week of October as major infrastructure works near completion, but uncertainty remains over which airlines will operate international flights from the tourist city.
- CAAB documents show that the international passenger terminal is 98.97 percent complete, while the runway expansion project is 91.65 percent complete. Both projects are scheduled to run until December 2026.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/coxs-bazar-international-airport-set-october-launch-4281421>

International

IMF warns Sri Lanka recovery at risk

September 24, 2026

- Sri Lanka's recovery from the worst economic crisis in its history could be upended by the El Nino climate phenomenon and fallout from the Middle East war, the IMF warned Wednesday.
- The South Asian nation's economic collapse of 2022 was triggered by a severe foreign exchange shortage that led to a historic sovereign debt default.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/imf-warns-sri-lanka-recovery-risk-4281311>

OECD lifts global growth forecast despite Mideast war

September 24, 2026

- Economic growth has remained "resilient" in many countries despite the war in the Middle East, the OECD said Wednesday as it slightly raised its GDP forecasts for the year.
- Global economic growth is now seen at 2.9pc, a 0.1-point increase from estimates in June by the Paris-based group of 38 industrialised countries.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/oecd-lifts-global-growth-forecast-despite-mideast-war-4281321>

Dollar holds near 2-month high as markets weigh rate hikes, Iran diplomacy

September 24, 2026

- The dollar steadied near its strongest level in two months on Wednesday on prospects of interest rate hikes in the near term, while easing oil prices on hopes for a diplomatic breakthrough to end the West Asia war kept investors on edge.
- The recent barrage of rate hikes and hawkish rhetoric from major central banks has taken centre stage in currency markets as the US-Israeli conflict with Iran drives oil prices higher and fans inflation worries. Investors are now anticipating further tightening from central banks, with Federal Reserve officials flagging the possibility of more hikes if inflation does not ease.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/global/dollar-holds-near-2-month-high-as-markets-weigh-rate-hikes-iran-diplomacy>

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