

## Economy

### Import settlements plunge 11pc on decline in capital machinery import

September 30, 2025

- Despite having an adequate supply of US dollars, the country's Letter of Credit (LC) settlement for imports declined significantly in August this year, primarily due to a drop in capital machinery imports, signaling a slowdown in new business and investment.
- Data from the Bangladesh Bank shows that LC settlements dropped by 10.94pc year-on-year, standing at USD 4.88bn in August 2025, compared with USD 5.48bn in the same month of 2024. However, LC openings in August reached USD 5.38bn, up 3.06pc from USD 5.22bn a year earlier. Officials attributed the decline in settlements to reduced new LC openings in previous months and lower pressure from overdue LCs.

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/import-settlements-plunge-11-decline-capital-machinery-import-1249396>

### Inflow of remittances reaches USD 2.47bn so far this month

September 30, 2025

- Remittance inflow reached USD 2.47bn in the first 28 days of September, up 16.7pc year-on-year, strengthening short-term FX receipts and helping immediate external liquidity while broader financing gaps remain.
- Cumulative remittances from July 1 to September 28 totaled USD 7.37bn versus USD 6.25bn a year earlier, a 17.9pc rise that eases near-term external-account pressure and improves import cover.
- The Bangladesh Bank data, published Monday and reported by BSS, show remittances boosting banking liquidity, but analysts caution the flow is seasonal and cannot fully replace steady export growth or FDI needed for durable balance-sheet repair.

From: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh/inflow-of-remittances-reaches-247-billion-so-far-this-month>

### NBR expands duty-free import benefits to diversify exports

September 30, 2025

- In a move to facilitate export diversification, the National Board of Revenue (NBR) has opened the door for partial exporters in eight sectors to import raw materials duty-free against a bank guarantee. The facility would cover processed foods, light engineering, furniture, electronics, plastic products and leather goods.

- Many exporters cannot avail a bonded warehouse license under existing rules, which limits their ability to import duty-free raw materials for export production. They can now bring in raw materials without paying import duties upfront by providing a bank guarantee equal to the customs duty assessed on the products.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/nbr-expands-duty-free-import-benefits-diversify-exports-3998021>

## Banking

### BB makes foreign loan reporting mandatory in CIB database

September 30, 2025

- Bangladesh Bank ordered all banks and financial institutions to report private-sector foreign loans, including suppliers' credit, to the Credit Information Bureau from November, forcing visibility on external liabilities and reducing borrowers' ability to get fresh local loans.
- Banks must upload lender name, address, country, local approving authority, related-party identities (directors, guarantors, shareholders over 20pc) and loan amounts in original currency plus USD equivalent for outstanding and overdue sums, strengthening supervisory risk analytics.
- Banks will submit historical foreign-loan records up to October 2025 and begin monthly reporting from November 1, with real-time updates for new loans or adjustments, tightening credit discipline and improving the accuracy of borrower balance sheets.

From: <https://www.observerbd.com/news/546470>

### All Treasury bill yields fall below 10pc amid rising liquidity

September 30, 2025

- All Treasury-bill yields fell into single digits — 91-day to 9.90pc from 10.0pc, 182-day to 9.78pc from 9.91pc, and 364-day to 9.68pc from 9.88pc — reflecting rising banking liquidity and softer government borrowing, a shift that should press down deposit rates.
- Bangladesh Bank bought USD 1.8bn since July from commercial banks while injecting about BDT 230bn (USD 1,888.47mm) into markets, swelling bank liquidity and prompting lenders to park excess funds in low-yield Treasury instruments.
- Top-tier deposit rates sit around 8–9pc while lending averages above 13pc and BB's policy rate remains 10pc, meaning bank spreads could widen unless the central bank cuts its policy rate to ease borrowing costs.

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/all-treasury-bill-yields-fall-below-10-amid-rising-liquidity-1248491>

### Trade and Commerce

#### TCB to sell tea, salt, soap at subsidized rates

September 30, 2025

- TCB will sell five more items — tea, salt, detergent and two types of soap — from November, expanding subsidized supplies beyond sugar, lentils and soybean oil.
- The government provides BDT 50bn (USD 410.54mn) annually through TCB subsidized sales, a large fiscal burden that makes year-round truck distributions unfeasible and raises questions about program sustainability.
- Economists warn high inflation and falling purchasing power mean the expansion helps poor households, yet officials say continuous truck sales are infeasible, leaving millions dependent on intermittent support and exposed to price shocks.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/tcb-sell-tea-salt-soap-subsidised-rates-3997776>

#### National Pay Commission seeks public opinion to design salary structure

September 30, 2025

- The National Pay Commission launched an online platform to gather public opinions to design a transparent, effective salary structure, inviting citizens to submit feedback that the commission says will shape a fair, administratively efficient pay framework.
- Citizens may submit views at [paycommission2025.gov.bd](https://paycommission2025.gov.bd). All submissions will be reviewed and considered, giving stakeholders a direct channel to influence job grades, pay bands and allowances, which could change public-sector compensation design and fiscal planning.
- The commission, in a notice signed by Md Musa, urged broad participation and said contributions will ensure the final salary framework reflects public expectations and administrative efficiency, signaling openness but not yet specifying a consultation deadline.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/national-pay-commission-seeks-public-opinion-design-salary-structure-3997591>

#### Post-harvest losses eat up 21m tons of food a year: CPD

September 30, 2025

- Bangladesh loses nearly 21mn tons of food each year, eroding food security, cutting farmers' incomes and costing the economy billions.

- WFP and FAO data show 25 to 40pc of fruits and vegetables, about USD 2.4bn annually, rot before reaching consumers, while paddy and wheat each lose roughly 17 to 18pc, worsening availability and market inefficiency.
- CPD and WFP urged urgent investment in storage, fair pricing and supply chain fixes to stop the waste.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/post-harvest-losses-eat-21m-tons-food-year-cpd-3998016>

#### ADB grants USD 58.6mn to support displaced Myanmar nat'ls, host communities in Bangladesh

September 30, 2025

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has signed new agreements with the Government of Bangladesh to provide a USD 58.6mn grant and a USD 28.1mn concessional loan aimed at improving living conditions for displaced people from Myanmar and the communities hosting them.
- The new initiative, titled Integrated Services and Livelihood for Displaced People from Myanmar and Host Communities Improvement Project, will expand access to clean water, sanitation, roads, bridges, drainage systems, food security, energy, and disaster resilience in Cox's Bazar and Bhasan Char.

From: <https://www.observerbd.com/news/546417>

#### Gold price sets record, tops BDT 195,000 (USD 1604.24)

September 30, 2025

- The Bangladesh Jewellers Association (BAJUS) has announced another increase in gold prices, just two days after the last hike, hitting an all-time high of BDT 195,383 (USD 1604.24) per bhoori (11.66 gm).
- Under the new rates, the price of 22-carat gold has risen to BDT 195,384 per bhoori, compared to BDT 192,969 (USD 1584.42) previously.

From: <https://www.observerbd.com/news/546504>

#### Housing slowdown drags down BDT 65bn (USD 532.8mn) electrical and electronic market

September 30, 2025

- Housing slowdown cut demand for electrical fittings by up to 50pc, hitting a market worth BDT 65bn (USD 533.70mn) and threatening livelihoods of about 500,000 workers across manufacturers, retailers and installers.
- DAP building-height limits slashed developer activity by about 70pc, forcing contractors out and

halving weekly retail sales at Kaptan and Karwan bazaars, which squeezes margins and prompts moderate price increases of 10–12pc.

- Electrical accessories account for BDT 35.75bn (USD 293.53mn) and lighting BDT 29.25bn (USD 240.16mn), dominated by Super Star, Walton and Click, but smaller manufacturers face closures as sales and prices compress margins.

From: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/housing-slowdown-drags-down-BDT6500cr-electrical-and-electronic-market-1248466>

### Capital Market

#### Jamuna Bank to issue bond to raise BDT 8bn (USD 65.6mn)

September 30, 2025

- Jamuna Bank has received regulatory approval to raise BDT 8bn (USD 65.6mn) through the issuance of bonds under private placement.
- The move follows an earlier announcement on April 21, 2025, when Jamuna Bank's board decided to raise capital through bond issuance to strengthen its balance sheet and support future growth.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/jamuna-bank-issue-bond-raise-BDT-800-crore-3997626>

### International

#### Gold surges past USD 3,800/oz

September 30, 2025

- Gold prices surged above USD 3,800 an ounce for the first time on Monday, driven by rising bets on a US Federal Reserve rate cut that weakened the dollar, while concerns over a possible US government shutdown bolstered safe-haven demand.
- Spot gold jumped 1.4pc to USD 3,812.49 per ounce by 0727 GMT, after hitting USD 3,819.59 earlier in the session. US gold futures for December delivery rose 0.9pc to USD 3,842.20.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/gold-surges-past-3800oz-3997991>

#### China's new K visa beckons foreign tech talent as US hikes H-1B fee

September 30, 2025

- The US proposed charging USD 100,000 per year for new H-1B visas, a steep fee that will deter employer sponsorship, shrink the H-1B pipeline and push skilled applicants to alternative markets like China.
- China launched the K visa for young STEM graduates, allowing entry, residence and

employment without a job offer, removing a major H-1B hurdle and offering faster, employer-free mobility.

- Beijing is offering home-purchase subsidies and signing bonuses up to 5mn yuan (reported USD 702,200), yet vague eligibility rules, no clear PR/family sponsorship and Mandarin requirements limit mass appeal.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/chinas-new-k-visa-beckons-foreign-tech-talent-us-hikes-h-1b-fee-3997986>

#### India to launch EFTA trade pact on Oct 1

September 30, 2025

- India will formally operationalize a trade pact with the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) on October 1, aiming to cut tariffs and open services and investment channels, which could boost exports while triggering domestic sensitivity over import competition.
- Key sectors likely affected include pharmaceuticals, engineering goods, textiles and IT services, offering tariff relief and market access but risking higher imports in sensitive agriculture and consumer goods that could strain local producers.

From: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/india-launch-efta-trade-pact-oct-1-3998006>

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### IDLC-SL Research



#### Research Team

Name	Designation	Email	Contact Number
Tanay Kumar Roy, CFA	Head of Equity Research	tanay@idlc.com	880 1708 46 95 80
Md. Fahad Been Ayub	Business Analyst	MdFahad@IDLC.com	880 1521 43 81 88
Mohammad Tashnim	Research Associate	mtashnim@idlc.com	880 1730 70 16 45
Zareen Binte Shahjahan	Research Associate	zareen@idlc.com	880 1708 46 95 95
Muntasir Mohammad	Analyst	muntasirm@idlc.com	

#### IDLC Securities Limited

DR Tower (4th Floor), 65/2/2 Bir Protik Gazi Golam Dastagir Road,

Purana Paltan, Dhaka - 1000

Tel: +8809609994352

Fax: +88029574366

E-mail: [IDLCResearch@idlc.com](mailto:IDLCResearch@idlc.com)