Morning Newsflash

Tuesday, 10 November, 2026

IDLC-SL Research

Economy

Business activity rebounds after two sluggish months: PMI

November 10, 2026

- After two consecutive months of slowdown, Bangladesh's economic activity rebounded in October, as manufacturing, construction and services returned to expansion, according to the latest Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI).
- The headline PMI had declined for two consecutive months, hitting its lowest level since August 2024 in September. However, it rebounded by 3.2 points month-on-month to 51.8 in October.

From: https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/business-activity-rebounds-after-two-sluggish-months-pmi-4319521

Import bill up 11.5pc amid global price pressures

November 10, 2026

- Bangladesh's import expenditure rose by 11.50pc in the first quarter (Q1) of the current fiscal year 2026-27 (FY27), with the upward trend expected to continue in the coming months ahead of the Holy Ramadan.
- Bangladesh Bank (BB) officials expect import-payment obligations to keep rising, particularly after the country spent an additional USD 1.0bn in October 2026 to settle public-sector import bills, mainly for fuel oil, gas and electricity.

From: https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/import-bill-up-115pc-amid-global-price-pressures

Inflation edges down, but living costs remain high

November 10, 2026

- Point-to-point inflation fell to 8.27pc in October from 8.34pc in September, but remained higher than the 8.17pc recorded in the same month last year, according to Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) data released yesterday.
- Inflation eased only marginally in October as a sharp rise in non-food prices offset a decline in food prices, keeping the overall rate above 8pc for another month.
- Slower wage growth has added to the pressure on household budgets, making it harder for low-income families, daily wage earners and people on fixed incomes to cope with the rising cost of living.

From: https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/inflation-edges-down-living-costs-remain-high-4319546

Banking

Inclusive instant payment system set for next July: BB

November 10, 2026

- Bangladesh Bank has taken an initiative to introduce an Inclusive Instant Payment System (IIPS) to bring all banks, mobile financial service providers and other financial institutions under a common digital platform, targeting its launch in July next year.
- Under the new system, customers will be able to transfer money and conduct transactions easily using their bank accounts or mobile wallets, regardless of the financial institution where their accounts are held. This will eliminate the need to rely on separate networks for transferring money between different institutions.

From: https://observerbd.com/news/604900

Capital Market

Listed state-owned firms post mixed earnings in FY26

November 10, 2026

- According to financial statements published by 14 of the 20 listed state-owned companies, six reported profit growth, two posted lower profits, and six incurred net losses during the fiscal year.
- The combined market capitalization of the 20 listed SOEs stood at BDT 232.11bn (USD 1.90bn), accounting for 3.46pc of the Dhaka Stock Exchange's (DSE) total equity market capitalization.

From: https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/listed-state-owned-firms-post-mixed-earnings-fy26-1597791

Auditors question viability of three listed companies

November 10, 2026

- Auditors of Bashundhara Paper Mills PLC (BPMPLC), GSP Finance and The Peninsula Chittagong have expressed uncertainty about the ability of the three companies to continue as going concerns, according to disclosures posted by the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE).
- The auditors raised concerns as the companies have been incurring losses, which, in their assessment, cast doubt on their ability to continue regular operations. The auditors also pointed to difficulties in opening letters of credit (LCs) to import raw materials.

From: https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/auditors-question-viability-three-listed-companies-4319541

NBR moves to cut textile sector income tax to 15pc until 2030

November 10, 2026

- The National Board of Revenue (NBR) is set to cut the income tax rate for the textile sector from 27.5pc to 15pc, keeping the reduced rate unchanged until 30 June 2030.
- The tax authorities have drafted a statutory regulatory order (SRO), proposing the reduction and sent it to Finance Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury for approval.
- In 2015, the NBR imposed a 15pc income tax on these companies for 10 years through an SRO. After the order expired in 2025, the tax rate reverted to 27.5pc. The export-oriented readymade garment sector remains at 12pc.

From: https://www.tbsnews.net/nbr/nbr-moves-cut-textile-sector-income-tax-15-until-2030-1596881

Trade and Commerce

RJSC set to introduce a new eBRS from November 12
November 10, 2026

- The Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Firms (RJSC) is set to introduce a new electronic Business Registration System (eBRS) from November 12, aiming to automate its core services and enable businesses to complete procedures online without physically visiting its office.
- The services include company registration, name clearance, partnership registration and society registration.

From: https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/rjsc-set-to-introduce-a-new-ebrs-from-november-12

Govt to reassess salt demand, production capacity
November 10, 2026

- The government is set to reassess Bangladesh's salt demand, production capacity and market conditions to strengthen the domestic industry and ensure an adequate supply at stable prices.
- The initiative comes as official figures show that domestic production remains below the country's projected demand for the 2026-27 fiscal year, sources said.

From: https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/govt-to-reassess-salt-demand-production-capacity

Only 31pc entities file VAT returns, 66pc report zero
November 10, 2026

- Only 31.54pc of the VAT-registered entities in Bangladesh filed online returns in July 2026, while nearly two-thirds of them reported no VAT payable, according to an official report.
- Of the 830,232 entities registered with the National Board of Revenue (NBR), only 261,858 submitted online VAT returns during the month.

From: https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade/only-31pc-entities-file-vat-returns-66pc-report-zero

Corporate

Banks back away from Standard Chartered Bangladesh retail business sale
November 10, 2026

- Most of the top local banks that lined up to buy the retail business of Standard Chartered Bangladesh are now leaving the race, officials at the banks say, indicating that the business sale by the foreign lender announced last month might be challenging.
- For taking over the local retail business of the British multinational bank, at least six commercial lenders showed strong interest over the months. They include BRAC Bank, City Bank, Pubali Bank, Mutual Trust Bank, Dhaka Bank and Dutch-Bangla Bank.
- The main attraction for most of the local commercial lenders was the low-cost deposits portfolio of Standard Chartered Bangladesh's retail banking. They now ask what they would do with that money if lending keeps sliding.

From: https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/banks-back-away-standard-chartered-bangladesh-retail-business-sale-4319556

International

Middle East oil price war heralds post-conflict glut
November 10, 2026

- Middle East oil producers are slashing prices to attract buyers as a sharp recovery in flows through the Strait of Hormuz tips the global crude market toward oversupply – a preview of the crowded, hyper-competitive oil market that the Iran war may leave in its wake.

- Global benchmark Brent crude tumbled more than 17pc last week to around USD 97 a barrel, its steepest weekly decline since the 2020 pandemic.

From: https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/middle-east-oil-price-war-heralds-post-conflict-glut-4319506

Fed hike bets support dollar
November 10, 2026

- The US dollar held near a 1-1/2-year high versus the euro on Monday after posting its biggest gain in nearly six months on Friday as robust US jobs data pushed up bets for higher interest rates.

- The risk-sensitive Australian and New Zealand dollars rallied as a rebound in AI-related stocks buoyed market sentiment.

From: https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/fed-hike-bets-support-dollar-4319496

China extends suspensions of 24pc tariff on US goods
November 10, 2026

- China on Monday extended the suspension of its additional tariff of 24pc on US imports and the suspension of special port fees on US-linked ships for two months.
- The 24pc additional tariff on US imports will continue to be suspended for two months from 1:01 p.m. (0501 GMT) on Tuesday, but a tariff of 10pc will remain, its state council, or cabinet, said

From: https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/china-extends-suspensions-24-tariff-us-goods-4319491

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