



Highlights from the Week

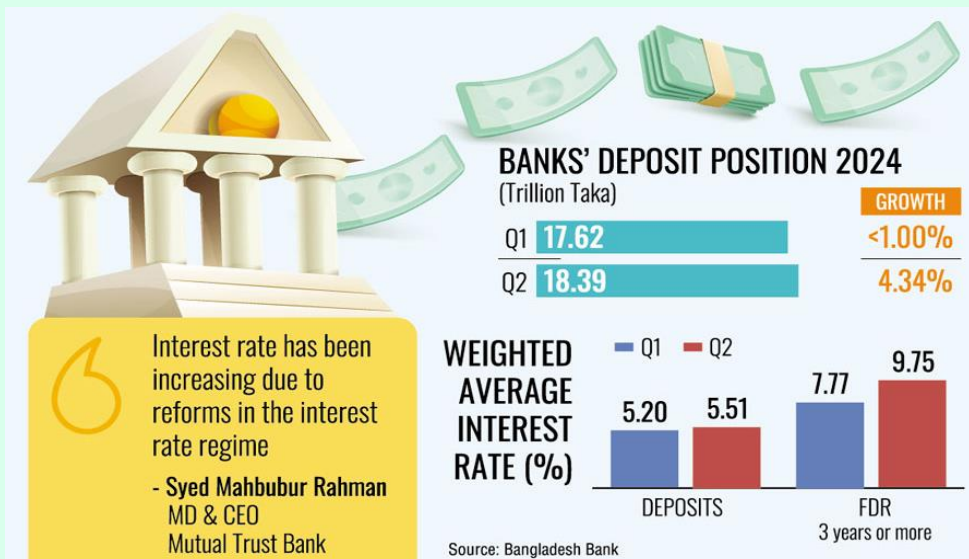
- 🇬🇧 Inflation to hit double digits by end of FY25: ADB
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Inflation to hit double digits by end of FY25: ADB

- Inflation is projected to hit double digits at the end of the current fiscal year owing to supply-side disruptions and higher import costs as a result of currency depreciation, according to the Asian Development Bank (ADB).
- In its latest Asian Development Outlook released yesterday, the Manila-based lender projected that inflation would increase to 10.1 percent in fiscal year (FY) 2025, which is 3.1 percentage points higher than the estimate it made in April.
- The immediate past government, which was ousted on August 5 by a mass uprising, had targeted to keep inflation to 6.5 percent this fiscal year after it had hit 9.7 percent in FY24.



Bank deposits grow 3.34pc in Q2 on better rates



- The total deposit liabilities, excluding interbank items, of the country's 61 scheduled banks increased by 4.34 per cent to about Tk 18.39 trillion during the second quarter (Q2) of 2024, compared to the first quarter (Q1). The deposit growth during the January-March quarter (Q1) was recorded at less than 1.0 per cent, reaching over Tk 17.62 trillion, according to a latest Bangladesh Bank (BB) report released on Wednesday.
- It highlighted that urban deposits, which make up more than 84 per cent of total deposits, grew by 4.32 per cent to about Tk 15.56 trillion by the end of June 2024.
- Among the three key categories of deposits, fixed deposits that hold the largest share grew by 3.86 per cent to Tk 8.22 trillion during the April-June period.

Central bank raises policy rate to 9.5pc

- Funds get costlier as the regulator raises policy interest rate to a historic high of 9.5 per cent as exorbitant prices passing through many years now remain a concern for the interim government.
- A 50-basis-point hike, announced Tuesday by the Bangladesh Bank with immediate effect, raises the rate from 9.0 per cent to 9.5 per cent—the highest since the introduction of such monetary-control instrument two decades back in 2003.
- According to Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) data, consumer-price inflation surged to 11.66 per cent in July 2023.

Bangladesh receives \$1.63b remittance in 21 days of September

- Bangladesh has received \$1.63 billion in remittances in 21 days of September 2024, according to a report released by Bangladesh Bank on Sunday.
- This represents a \$300 million increase compared to the same period last year, when expatriates sent \$1.33 billion in September 2023.
- In the fiscal year 2023-24, Bangladeshi expatriates sent a total of \$23.92 billion in remittances, marking the second-highest annual figure ever. The highest remittance inflow was recorded in the fiscal year 2020-21, with \$24.77 billion sent by expatriates.

Nonbanks see deposit surge despite drop in accounts

35 NONBANK FINANCE COS			
Apr-Jun 2024			
Deposit accounts	0.3797m	↓ 11%	Lucrative bets on FDRs may lure big enterprise deposits <i>—Experts</i>
Deposit amount	Tk. 45.12b	↑ 1.83%	

- Deposit accounts with the country's nonbank finance companies (NBFCs) fell over 11 per cent in the quarter compared to the previous quarter to March 2024. However, despite the decline in account numbers, total deposits grew by nearly 2.0 per cent during the period.
- As of June, the central bank's statistics reveal that the number of deposit accounts stood at 0.3797 million. Meanwhile, total deposits amounted to Tk 45.12 billion, marking a growth of 1.83 per cent.

Govt borrows Tk. 289.52b from banks in July-Aug for deficit financing

- The government borrowed Tk 289.52 billion from banks in July-August for deficit financing but its net borrowing came to over Tk107 billion in the first two months of this fiscal after repayment. Actually, the ministry of finance borrowed Tk 289.52 billion from all the scheduled banks while Tk 182.49 billion was paid to the central bank.
- The net government bank borrowing is set to be Tk 1375.00 billion for the FY'25 in a rise from Tk 1323.95 billion in the previous year. However, the government revised its bank-borrowing target to Tk 1559.35 billion from the proposed Tk 1323.95 billion for the past FY '24. But the net government borrowing from banks was Tk 942.82 billion by the end of FY '24.

Mastercard announces winners of its 'Spend and Win campaign'

- Mastercard recently announced the winners of its 'Spend and Win Campaign' during an award ceremony at the Sheraton Dhaka in the capital's Banani.
- The campaign, titled 'Stunning Sydney 2024', was live from May 21 to June 30, and offered exciting rewards on spends on Mastercard credit, debit and prepaid card during the festive month of Eid-ul-Azha, incentivising digital payments.
- Mahjubin Shahnaz, a Mastercard cardholder from Dhaka Bank PLC, received a four-day couple trip from Dhaka to Sydney as the first prize, according to a press release.
- A total of 50 winners received prizes, such as travel, electronics, and lifestyle vouchers from the leading merchants in Bangladesh.



British-Irish company Deltaport to invest \$36 million in BEPZA EZ

- British-Irish company Deltaport Ltd will invest \$36 million to set up a garments factory in the Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority Economic Zone (BEPZA EZ) at Mirsarai in Chattogram.
- The company has set a target to annually produce 20 million pieces of protective clothes, workwear, various garments, PPE, hospital gowns, masks, bed sheets, curtains and other items. The factory will create employment for 5980 Bangladeshi nationals. Deltaport Ltd is a sister concern of Eastport Ltd, a garment manufacturing company of Cumilla EPZ that has been operating since 2013.

Gold price hiked by Tk 3,045 a bhoari again to TK. 138,708

- In the gap of just a day, the jewellers have increased gold prices once again.
- From 26th September, each bhoari or 11.664 grammes of 22-carat gold will cost Tk 138,708, the highest ever in the history of Bangladesh.
- Citing an increase in pure gold prices in the local market, the Bangladesh Jewellers Association (Bajus) in a meeting of the Bajus Standing Committee on Pricing Monitoring today decided to raise the prices of 22-carat gold by Tk 3,045 per bhoari.

World Commodities

Commodity	Close Price	Value Change	Percentage Change
Crude Oil [WTI]	\$ 68.19	↓ 1.50	↓ 2.15 %
Crude Oil [Brent]	\$ 71.94	↓ 1.52	↓ 2.07 %
Gold Spot	\$ 2,692.00	↑ 7.30	↑ 0.27 %

Local and Global Stock Indices

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change	Percentage Change
DJIA	\$ 41,914.75	↓ 293.47	↓ 0.70 %
FTSE100	\$ 8,299.46	↑ 30.76	↑ 0.37 %
Nikkei 225	\$ 38,925.63	↑ 1,055.37	↑ 2.79 %

Inter-Bank Exchange Rate

Currency	Lowest	Highest	Current WAR
USD	120.0000	120.0000	120.0000

Source:

- * News are taken from Daily Newspapers
- * World Commodities and Global Stock Indices data are taken from bloomberg.com
- * Exchange Rates are taken from BB website, as on latest update.