BASL DAILY NEWS BUZZ

October 29, 2026

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Key News

BAT Bangladesh's Q3 profit plunges 67% to Tk99.84 crore
United Finance's 9-month profit jumps 56% to Tk6.6cr
BRAC Bank's nine-month profit jumps 38% to Tk2,121 crore
IDLC Finance Q3 profit rises 17% YoY
Robi posts Tk747cr profit in nine months
Cable market shrinks 25% as demand slump hits manufacturers
Banking sector recovery expected by March-April 2027: BB
Brent rises to $115.24

Stock Market & Company

BAT Bangladesh's Q3 profit plunges 67% to Tk99.84 crore

The Business Standard, Oct 28, 2026

- British American Tobacco (BAT) Bangladesh PLC's net profit fell 67.28% year on year to Tk99.84 crore in the July-September quarter of 2026, as lower revenue and higher operating expenses weighed on earnings.
- According to the company's unaudited financial statements for the third quarter ended 30 September, net profit after tax declined from Tk305.04 crore in the same period last year.
- Quarterly earnings per share (EPS) also dropped to Tk1.85 from Tk5.65 a year earlier.
- The decline came as net revenue from contracts with customers fell to Tk1,259 crore in the third quarter, down from Tk1,677.13 crore in the corresponding period of 2025.
- The company generated gross revenue of Tk7,328.34 crore during the quarter, from which Tk6,068.78 crore was deducted as supplementary duty and value-added tax (VAT).

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/bat-bangladeshs-q3-profit-plunges-67-tk9984-crore-1586076

United Finance's 9-month profit jumps 56% to Tk6.6cr

The Business Standard, Oct 28, 2026

- United Finance PLC's net profit rose 56% year on year to Tk6.6 crore in the first nine months of 2026, while operating profit increased 39% to Tk31.1 crore, driven by growth in lending, investments and customer deposits.
- The non-bank financial institution (NBFI) disclosed its unaudited financial results for the period ended 30 September following approval at a board meeting today (28 October).
- The company's portfolio of loans, advances and investments grew 11% to Tk2,547 crore at the end of September, reflecting business expansion amid sluggish private sector credit growth.
- Customer deposits increased 31% to Tk1,729 crore during the period, strengthening the company's funding base and capacity to extend credit.
- United Finance also expanded its focus on sustainable financing. Green and sustainability-linked financing accounted for 83% of its total disbursements in the first nine months of 2026, up from 75% in the same period last year.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/united-finances-9-month-profit-jumps-56-tk66cr-1586066

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BRAC Bank's nine-month profit jumps 38% to Tk2,121 crore

The Business Standard, Oct 28, 2026

- BRAC Bank PLC's consolidated net profit after tax rose 38% year-on-year to Tk2,120.95 crore in January-September 2026, up from Tk1,535.86 crore a year earlier, according to its un-audited financial statements.Standalone net profit climbed about 50% to Tk1,583.81 crore from Tk1,055.20 crore.
- The stellar bottom-line performance was backed by strong revenue expansion. Consolidated revenue income saw healthy growth across key streams, with total operating income climbing to Tk7,726 crore for the nine-month period, compared to Tk6,135 crore in the same period of 2025.
- Specifically, cumulative net interest income grew to Tk1,655 crore from Tk1,166 crore, while investment income expanded substantially to Tk4,143.64 crore against Tk3,394.37 crore.
- Despite the asset expansion, the bank maintained disciplined credit risk management. Total classified loans for the group stood at Tk1,910.55 crore as of 30 September 2026, representing a low classified loan ratio of 2.45% (and 2.27% on a solo basis).

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/brac-bank-profit-reaches-tk2000cr-nine-months-1585836

IDLC Finance Q3 profit rises 17% YoY

The Business Standard, Oct 28, 2026

- IDLC Finance PLC reported a 17% year-on-year increase in consolidated net profit for the third quarter of 2026, with earnings per share (EPS) rising to Tk4.51 from Tk3.85 in the same period last year.
- According to the company's financial statements approved at a board meeting yesterday (27 October), consolidated net profit after tax reached Tk206 crore for the quarter ended 30 September.
- The company's annualised return on equity (ROE) rose to 12.24% from 11.39% in the third quarter of 2025, while return on assets (ROA) increased to 1.51% from 1.48%.
- On a standalone basis, IDLC's customer deposits stood at Tk116.93 billion, while its loan portfolio totalled Tk120.45 billion.
- The company's non-performing loan (NPL) ratio declined to 4.09% from 4.71% a year earlier. Its provision coverage ratio stood at 110%, reflecting provisions against potential loan losses.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/idlc-finance-q3-profit-rises-17-yoy-1585841

Robi posts Tk747cr profit in nine months

The Business Standard, Oct 28, 2026

- Robi Axiata PLC, the country's second-largest mobile operator, reported a profit of Tk746.5 crore in the first nine months of 2026, supported by revenue growth, rising data usage and improved operational efficiency.
- According to the company's financial disclosure, revenue reached Tk7,929 crore during January-September, while earnings per share (EPS) stood at Tk1.43.
- In the July-September quarter, Robi's profit after tax stood at Tk251 crore, with a profit margin of 9.4%. Revenue grew 7% year-on-year to Tk2,686 crore, while quarterly EPS was Tk0.48.
- Robi's active subscriber base expanded to 5.92 crore at the end of September, including 4.68 crore internet users. Its 4G user base reached 4.28 crore, accounting for 72% of total active subscribers.
- The operator invested Tk342 crore in capital expenditure during the quarter, taking its total investment for the first nine months to Tk1,413 crore. The spending supported network expansion, including the rollout of more than 19,000 4G sites nationwide.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/robi-posts-tk747cr-profit-nine-months-1585686

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Economy & Industry

Cable market shrinks 25% as demand slump hits manufacturers

The Business Standard, Oct 27, 2026

- Bangladesh's cable industry, backed by more than Tk10,000 crore in investment, faces a deepening crisis as falling public infrastructure spending, a housing slowdown, and high borrowing costs have shrunk the market by around 25% in just two years, forcing factories to shut and workers unpaid.
- The market, which exceeded Tk12,000 crore in 2022, has fallen to an estimated Tk8,000-9,000 crore, according to industry insiders. More than 100 manufacturers are now competing for fewer orders, with smaller firms struggling to survive amid rising costs and limited access to bank financing.
- More than 30% of the market depends on government projects, Md Rafiqul Islam Rony, director (marketing) of BRB Cable Industries, told TBS.
- Activity in this segment has declined by 50-60% over the past two years, while demand from the housing sector has fallen by 30-35%, he said."Production costs have increased, but prices in the market could not be raised accordingly," Rony said.
- The downturn marks a sharp reversal for an industry that expanded from around Tk2,000 crore in 2008 to more than Tk12,000 crore in 2022, driven by electrification, industrialisation, housing and public investment.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/industry/cable-market-shrinks-25-demand-slump-hits-manufacturers-1585131

Banking sector recovery expected by March-April 2027: BB

The Financial Express, Oct 28, 2026

- Bangladesh Bank (BB) is implementing a series of reforms to restore stability in the banking sector, improve governance and normalise investment and credit flows, with visible improvements in banks' financial conditions expected by March-April next year.
- "The central bank is prioritising control of non-performing loans (NPLs), assessment of asset quality, addressing capital shortfalls, strengthening corporate governance and improving risk management," said BB Deputy Governor Dr Md Habibur Rahman today (Wednesday), BSS reports.
- He made the remarks while speaking as a special guest at the inaugural session of the 11th Annual Banking Conference (ABC) 2026, organised by the Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management (BIBM).
- Renowned economist and former interim government adviser Dr Wahiduddin Mahmud, a former professor of economics at Dhaka University, attended the programme as the chief guest.
- Other special guests included Jean Pesme , World Bank Division Director for Bangladesh and Bhutan; Mohammad Abdul Hai Sarker, chairman of the Bangladesh Association of Banks (BAB) and Dhaka Bank PLC; and Mashrur Arefin, managing director and CEO of City Bank PLC and chairman of the Association of Bankers, Bangladesh Limited (ABB).
- Dr Habibur Rahman said the first phase of measures to address the banking sector's challenges focused on rebuilding foreign exchange reserves, settling outstanding external liabilities and maintaining exchange rate stability.

https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/bangladesh/banking-sector-recovery-expected-by-march-april-2027-bb

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International

Brent rises to $115.24

The Daily Star, Oct 28, 2026

- Oil prices rose over 1 percent on Wednesday after an attack on a refinery in Saudi Arabia, the world's top crude exporter, renewed concerns about supply risks because of conflicts in the Middle East.
- Brent crude futures rose $1.36, or 1.2 percent, to $115.24 a barrel as of 0858 GMT. US West Texas Intermediate crude gained $1.62, or 1.6 percent, at $101.52.
- Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthis said on Tuesday they had hit Saudi Arabia's biggest oil refinery with a missile, intensifying their strikes against the world's second-largest crude producer. Saudi authorities did not immediately confirm the strike on the 550,000 barrel-per-day facility. For now, the market is pricing in a greater likelihood of re-escalation, ING commodity strategists said on Wednesday.
- "Oil prices remain elevated as the market waits for greater clarity on President (Donald) Trump's next move toward Iran," said ING strategists. "If we get past the elections without renewed strikes on Iran, that might be enough for the market's risk premium to start eroding," they added, referring to US midterm elections on November 3.
- Meanwhile, US crude oil stocks eased, according to market sources citing data from the American Petroleum Institute. Crude stocks fell by 2.03 million barrels in the week ended October 23, the sources said, against expectations of a 15,000-barrel build in an analyst poll by Reuters. Government data from the US Energy Information Administration is due later on Wednesday.
- The market will also monitor an upcoming industry meeting on Sunday, where Opec oil producers are expected to keep their December oil output targets steady, according to people with knowledge of the matter.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/global-economy/news/brent-rises-11524-4310051

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