

Banks asked to exclude overdrawn portions in loan renewals

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The Bangladesh Bank (BB) has asked commercial lenders to follow proper due diligence while renewing or rescheduling loans, after finding that some banks violated existing rules.

In a notice issued recently, the central bank said it observed that during loan renewals, some banks were setting new loan limits by including the overdrawn portion of the loan.

In many cases, the excess portion was being transferred as a separate loan to facilitate renewal, which is a breach of banking regulations.

The central bank clarified that continuous loans must be renewed within their existing terms and cannot be renewed without first adjusting the overdrawn amount. It further instructed that the excess portion of an ongoing loan must be separated from the original loan account and cannot be transferred to create new or separate loan accounts.

The notice also said that a continuous loan must be fully adjusted or renewed within its current tenure.

Stocks extend rally for fourth day

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Stock market indices in Bangladesh extended their winning streak for the fourth consecutive session yesterday, with turnover rising by 15.84 percent.

The DSEX, the benchmark index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) — the country's premier bourse — gained 65.19 points, or 1.36 percent, to close at 4,832.

The Shariah-compliant index, DSES, went up 1.24 percent to 1,059 points, while the DS30, which represents blue-chip stocks, gained 1.67 percent to 1,820.

Turnover, a key indicator of market activity, was Tk 479 crore, up from Tk 413 crore in the previous day's trading session.

Sea Pearl Beach Resort & Spa Ltd emerged as the most-traded share, with a turnover of Tk 20.6 crore. The food and allied sector

dominated the turnover chart, accounting for 12.65 percent of the total.

A total of 152,594 trades were executed during the session, with block transactions amounting to Tk 34.25 crore across 40 scrips.

Market breadth was positive, with 298 issues advancing, 46 declining, and 54 remaining unchanged.

Among A category shares, 168 advanced, 29 declined, and 26 remained unchanged. In the B category, 68 scrips gained and 9 declined, while the N category saw no trading activity.

Performance across other segments was mixed. In mutual funds, 21 issues advanced and 4 declined. In corporate bonds, one issue gained and two declined.

Government securities saw three issues advance and two decline.

Dragon Sweater and Spinning posted the highest gain of the day,

surging 10 percent, while Familytex (BD) was the worst performer, shedding 4 percent.

All the sectors that account for large amounts in market capitalisation, which refers to the total value of a company's outstanding shares of stock, posted positive performance, BRAC EPL Stock Brokerage said in its daily market update.

Telecommunication posted the highest gain of 2.16 percent, followed by food and allied (1.89 percent), pharmaceuticals (1.56 percent), non-bank financial institutions (1.53 percent), engineering (1.44 percent), fuel & power (1.33 percent), and banking (1.07 percent).

At the Chittagong Stock Exchange, the CSE All Share Price Index (CASPI), the premier index of the port city bourse, edged up by 165.50 points, or 1.25 percent, to settle the day at 13,400.

NKA Mobin elected president of ICAB

STAR BUSINESS DESK

NKA Mobin, executive president of Emerging Credit Rating Limited (ECRL), has been elected president of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB) for a one-year term, effective from June 24.



NKA Mobin

Mobin succeeds Maria Howlader, who has completed her tenure as president, according to a press release.

He has been a member of the ICAB Council since 2019 and served as vice-president in 2019 and 2022. A sponsor director of ECRL, a credit rating agency licensed by the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission, he brings a wealth of experience to the role.

He currently serves as a government-nominated board director of Biman Bangladesh Airlines and as an independent director at Citizen Bank PLC.

He was independent director at Bangladesh Submarine Cable Company Limited, Heidelberg Cement Bangladesh Limited, Mobil Jamuna Lubricants Bangladesh Limited, Shasha Denimis Limited and Omera Petroleum Limited.

Bangladesh missing

FROM PAGE B1

Swiss-funded support, we provide GMP (good manufacturing practices) and food safety training to new recruits," he said. He also said exporters continue to face logistical bottlenecks due to the lack of credible labs at the local level.

KH Nurul Momen Kayes, proprietor of agricultural food exporter Trust and Trade, ships sesame oil to 12 countries but often depends on foreign labs like Eurofins Scientific for quality testing, which delays shipments.

"We need investment in domestic testing infrastructure to improve efficiency and global competitiveness," he urged.

Helal Hussain, country director of Swisscontact Bangladesh, noted that while agro-exports amount to around \$1.2 billion annually, volumes remain low due to poor compliance with global standards.

"Only a small portion of our tea is certified for key

markets," he said. To address this, Swisscontact has launched a project targeting 20 agro products across seven export markets, focusing on improving processing, traceability, packaging, and market knowledge.

"Sustained collaboration is essential to unlock this sector's potential," he added. Tanzila Tajreen, senior policy adviser at the Netherlands embassy, emphasised the need for targeted skills development through projects like BYETS (Building Youth Employability Through Skills).

"Agriculture has always been a cornerstone of our economy, yet agro-processing still lacks an export-oriented strategy," she said.

She stressed that skilling youth and women for decent employment in agro-processing can also diversify Bangladesh's export base beyond readymade garments.

Ikrumul H Sohel, senior programme officer at the Embassy of Sweden, echoed the sentiment. "Agriculture holds export potential similar to RMG—if we get the policies right," he said.

With the right policies on food safety, labour standards, certification, and financing, agriculture can be transformed into Bangladesh's next major export engine, he added.

The event was moderated by Ananya Raihan, chairperson of iSocial Limited.

Shamsul Huda Asif, admin and coordinator manager of the European Union Chamber of Commerce in Bangladesh; Palash Kanti Das, senior adviser of Climate Action Network South Asia; Mohammad Mosharraf Hossain, chief executive officer of Agro Food Industry Skills Council; and Saif Mohammad Moinul Islam, senior programme officer of International Labour Organization, also spoke at the event.

Trade policy reforms needed

FROM PAGE B1

While the FY26 budget aims for a 9 percent revenue-GDP ratio from the present rate of 7.4 percent, such an increase is unrealistic without broader base reforms and modernisation of the revenue administration, he said.

Reducing reliance on border taxes while expanding domestic tax bases is essential for sustaining growth, the analysis states. Amid this grim outlook, the toy industry has emerged as a bright spot, it said.

With exports rising from \$15 million in FY2017 to \$77 million in FY2023, and the potential to reach nearly half a billion US dollars by 2030, it could become a flagship non-RMG export sector, it added.

However, Sattar argues that "a protective tariff

regime and lack of logistics support" may stunt such sectors unless strategic trade facilitation and regulatory reforms are introduced.

With only two budgets remaining before Bangladesh graduates from LDC status, the PRI warns that policymakers must move beyond incrementalism.

The window for meaningful reform is rapidly closing. Failure to act boldly now risks long-term erosion of export competitiveness and macroeconomic resilience, he said.

"Bangladesh must embrace deep second-generation trade reforms, not only to prepare for LDC graduation but to secure its position in an increasingly competitive global trading system," he added.

Sheik Moinuddin, special assistant to the chief

adviser, said Bangladesh has no comprehensive transportation-related plan that could gear up economic development.

"We need a master plan so that the multimodal transport system of the country can take our development to the next level," he said.

At present, Bangladesh's procurement process is very lengthy, project costs tend to rise, and sometimes questions arise over the necessity of some projects. The interim government is working on these, he added.

The government raised its public expenditure by over 20 percent in the last two fiscal years while the private sector is reducing its costs, said Rizwan Rahman, a former president of the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The government also should think about reducing

operational costs, he said, urging a focus on reducing leakages and harassment in tax collection so that people feel encouraged to pay taxes.

Ashikur Rahman, principal economist at the PRI, argued that fiscal stress has emerged as the Achilles' heel of Bangladesh's macroeconomic management.

The situation has deteriorated to the extent that the Treasury is now compelled to borrow simply to meet recurring obligations—including segments of the public sector wage bill, ballooning subsidy costs, and escalating interest payments, he said.

Compounding this crisis is a regressive and narrow tax structure that not only fails to generate adequate revenue but also entrenches inequality by placing a disproportionate burden

on the lower and middle-income groups, he said.

This acute absence of fiscal space is not just a macroeconomic concern; it has paralysed the government's ability to undertake essential corrective actions—most notably, the recapitalisation of fragile banks grappling with rising non-performing loans, said Rahman.

In effect, the inability to mobilise equitable and sustainable fiscal resources is compromising financial sector stability and undermining the resilience of the broader economy, he said.

Clinton Pobke, deputy head of mission at the Australian High Commission in Bangladesh, and Ferdous Ara Begum, chief executive officer of Business Initiative Leading Development (BUILD), also spoke at the event.

Directors' assets

FROM PAGE B1

To ensure continuity, the draft proposes setting up one or more bridge insurance companies, which could later transfer the assets or shares of troubled firms to third parties.

Although the term "bridge insurance" is more commonly associated with covering physical damage to bridges caused by disasters, the draft uses it to describe temporary firms that will manage failing insurers before offloading them to stable entities.

Idra will also have the authority to temporarily place ownership of insurance companies

under government control if needed.

The draft sets up a consumer protection fund and outlines compensation for affected shareholders and creditors.

If a company is found to have misused funds or assets, those responsible will be deemed embezzlers, with both their permanent and temporary assets subject to seizure.

Offenders could face fines of up to Tk 1 crore, seven years in jail, or both, under the current legal provisions, says the draft.

Adeeba Rahman, first vice-president of the Bangladesh Insurance Association and sponsor

director of Delta Life Insurance Company Limited, said they had not yet received any formal communication from the government regarding the merger or dissolution of weak insurers.

She said if companies in serious financial trouble fail to repay policyholders even after being given a fair chance to respond, they should be merged.

"Given their state, there is no other option but to merge them," she added.

Rahman said Idra has yet to make the draft ordinance public. Once it does, the association will review the proposal with its members and submit detailed feedback.

Safety net allocation inadequate

FROM PAGE B1

Right to Food Bangladesh made several recommendations, including reviewing and excluding programmes that do not align with core poverty-reduction objectives, increasing the allocation and per-beneficiary amount, and introducing new schemes for the urban poor.

They noted that after excluding pension payments, the allocation for the social safety net stands at just 10.31 percent of the national budget, which is less than 1 percent of GDP.

Nagad gets its board restructured

FROM PAGE B1

On June 18, the Ministry of Finance asked the Directorate of Post to take necessary steps in line with existing rules, subject to approval by Bangladesh Bank, after reviewing the legal implications of appointing Mutasim Billah, a director at the central bank, as the chief executive officer of Nagad.

"As we turn 42, we're not mid-life—we're mid-momentum. Our best chapters are not in the archives—they're ahead of us. And yes, we've got both the roadmap and the resolve to write them well," he said.

UCB eyes sustainable

FROM PAGE B4

"Our goal is to make UPAY a preferred choice for both urban and rural customers by focusing on convenience, security, and value-added services," he said.

To improve transparency and corporate governance, Zahir said the UCB revamped its governance by strategically restructuring the board and strengthening internal controls aligned with global standards.

Enhanced independent oversight and robust board

committees ensure strong checks and balances, rebuilding trust and ensuring accountability at all levels, he said.

"We have overhauled our risk management framework, introducing advanced analytics for early detection of credit risks and strengthening compliance with regulatory standards," he said.

"Our risk committee now includes independent directors with extensive banking experience, ensuring objective oversight," said Zahir.

These reforms are designed to safeguard the UCB against future shocks and align it with global best practices in risk management, he said in the interview marking the 42nd anniversary of the private bank.

UCB began operations on June 27, 1983.

"As we turn 42, we're not mid-life—we're mid-momentum. Our best chapters are not in the archives—they're ahead of us. And yes, we've got both the roadmap and the resolve to write them well," he said.

Fed chair does not expect 'stagflation'

AFP, Washington

Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell said Wednesday that he does not expect the US economy to undergo "stagflation"—a period of slow growth and higher inflation—although the central bank is monitoring conditions.

Powell's comments before the Senate Banking Committee came shortly after the Fed cut its growth forecast for 2025 this month, while lifting projections of inflation this year.

These underscore the challenges

policy-makers have to manage as they mull changes to interest rates. Officials might lower rates to boost a stagnant economy but be inclined to keep rates higher if inflation were elevated.

Asked by a lawmaker Wednesday about the "potential risks of stagflation," Powell said this "isn't really the base case" for the world's biggest economy.

"We've warned of it, but it's honestly not something that we're facing or that we expect to face, but it's something we're monitoring," he

added. The central bank chief also reiterated the difficulty of predicting how much President Donald Trump's sweeping new tariffs might show up in inflation data.

"One of the reasons why it's so challenging is that there really isn't a modern precedent," he said.

"I think we have to be humble about our estimates, and we are very open to the possibility that transmission through into inflation will be less than we think, or maybe more than we think," Powell added.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Manikganj PWD Division, Manikganj
Phone & Fax No. 02998814122

Invitation for Tender Date: 26/06/2025

Memo No. 2293
Sealed tenders are invited for the undermentioned work as per brief terms and conditions stated below.

1. Ministry/Division	Ministry of Housing and Public Works.
2. Agency	Public Works Department.
3. Procuring entity name	Manikganj PWD Division, Manikganj.
4. Invitation for	মানিকগঞ্জ গণপূর্ত বিভাগ, মানিকগঞ্জ এর আওতাধীন মানিকগঞ্জ বহুতল বিশিষ্ট সমাধিত অফিস ভবনের দৈনন্দিন কাজ সুষ্ঠুভাবে পরিচালনা ও রক্ষণাবেক্ষণের জন্য আউটসোর্সিং পদ্ধতিতে মাসিক মজুরী ভিত্তিতে জনবল সরবরাহ কাজ। অর্থ বছর ২০২৫-২০২৬.
5. Invitation Tender No.	PWD Manik-01/2025-2026
6. Ref No. & date	Office of ACE Memo No. 1552 Date: 23/06/2025
KEY INFORMATION	
7. Procurement method	OTM
FUNDING INFORMATION	
8. Budget and source of funds	Revenue Budget, Government of Bangladesh
PARTICULAR INFORMATION	
9. Project name	Not applicable
10. Tender No.	PWD Manik-01/2025-2026
11. Tender publication date	26/06/2025
12. Last date & time for selling of tender documents	13/07/2025 during office hours
13. Last date & time for submission of tender documents	14/07/2025 at 12.00 Noon
14. Name & address of the office receiving tender documents	1. Office of the Executive Engineer, Manikganj PWD Division, Manikganj. 2. Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Manikganj. 3. Office of the Superintendent of Police, Manikganj.
15. Date, time & place for opening tender documents	Tender will be opened on 14/07/2025 at 2.00pm in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Manikganj PWD Division, Manikganj. Intending tenderers or their authorized representative may remain present during opening of tender.
16. Name & address of the office(s) Selling Tender Document	1. Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Manikganj. 2. Office of the Superintendent of Police, Manikganj 3. Office of the Executive Engineer, Manikganj PWD Division/ Mirpur PWD Division/ Savar PWD Division/ Gazipur PWD Division/S.B Nagar PWD Division/II/III/Mohakhali PWD Division /PWD City Division/ Dhaka PWD Division-II/III/IV/ Dhaka Medical College PWD Division. 4. Office of the Sub-Divisional Engineer, PWD Sub-Division-V under PWD Division-IV, Purta Bhaban, Dhaka.
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER	
17. Eligibility of tenderer	This Invitation for Tender is open to all eligible Tenderers as mentioned below: 1. The minimum number of years of general experience of the tenderer in contracting industries in public sector as prime contractor/sub-contractor/management contractor shall be 3 (Three) years. 2. Having experience as a prime contractor in providing non-consultant service of at least 1 (One) number of supplying manpower of amounting to BDT. 26.00 (Twenty-Six) lakh in a single contract in form PSN-5 of tender/autonomous organization of Bangladesh during the last 3 (Three) years. 3. The required minimum average annual turnover of tenderer shall be at least of the amount of 43.00 (Forty-Three) lakh over the last 3 (three) years of the last 5 (five) years. 4. The minimum amount of liquid assets, i.e. working capital or credit line(s) of the tenderer shall be BDT. 22.00 (Twenty-two) lakh. Letter of commitment for bank's undertaking for the line of credit as per form PSN-5 of tender and contract forms section must be submitted for this purpose (failing to submit in form PSN-5 will make the tenderer non-responsive). 5. Tenderer shall have the legal capacity to enter into the contract under the applicable law. 6. Tenderer shall have fulfilled its obligations to pay taxes under the provisions of laws and regulations of Bangladesh. 7. Tenderer shall be enrolled in the relevant professional or trade organizations registered in Bangladesh. 8. Every Proposed manpower must submit CV with post name written on it. The full eligibility and qualification criteria be available in details in the tender data sheet (TDS) section. 2) of tender documents.

1. Price of Tender Document (BDT)	BDT. 1000.00 (One thousand) only.		
2. Lot No	Identification of lot	Location	Tender Security Amount
1	মানিকগঞ্জ গণপূর্ত বিভাগ, মানিকগঞ্জ এর আওতাধীন মানিকগঞ্জ বহুতল বিশিষ্ট সমাধিত অফিস ভবনের দৈনন্দিন কাজ সুষ্ঠুভাবে পরিচালনা ও রক্ষণাবেক্ষণের জন্য আউটসোর্সিং পদ্ধতিতে মাসিক মজুরী ভিত্তিতে জনবল সরবরাহ কাজ। অর্থ বছর ২০২৫-২০২৬.	Manikganj Sadar, Manikganj.	Tk. 1.50 Lakh.
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS			
3. Name of Official Inviting Tender	Bishaw Nath Banik.		
4. Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Executive Engineer		
5. Address of Official Inviting Tender	Manikganj PWD Division, Manikganj.		
6. Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Tel & Fax: 02669910401, e-mail: ee_manik@pwd.gov.bd		
7. The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all the Tenders or annul the Tender proceedings.			

(Sajib Ahmed) Sub-Asstt. Engineer Manikganj PWD Division Manikganj
(Shekh Md Roquanzaman) Asstt. Engineer Manikganj PWD Division Manikganj
(Bishaw Nath Banik) Executive Engineer Manikganj PWD Division Manikganj

GD-1470