

Govt unveils new 5-year plan to bolster fiscal governance

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The Finance Division under the finance ministry has launched its third Public Financial Management (PFM) Reform Strategy, a five-year plan designed to shift fiscal governance from system-based reforms to outcome-driven accountability and service delivery.

For the first time, the plan mainstreams climate-smart PFM, gender-responsive budgeting, and sector-specific reforms in health, education, and social protection, reads a press statement issued by the division yesterday.

The strategy, unveiled by Finance Adviser Salehuddin Ahmed, comes as

the country grapples with rising public expenditure, climate pressures, and global economic volatility.

Speaking at the ceremony, he stressed that the framework is intended to strengthen transparency and ensure citizens receive tangible benefits from public spending.

The Finance Division states that the 2025-2030 roadmap sets out 15 reform pillars, ranging from fiscal sustainability and debt management to procurement, oversight, and digital transformation.

Finance Secretary Md Khairuzzaman Mozumder described the strategy as the product of "sustained and collaborative efforts" across ministries, constitutional

bodies, and development partners.

Comptroller and Auditor General Md Nurul Islam underscored the role of independent audit in ensuring fiscal discipline and citizen-focused services.

Jean Pesme, World Bank's Division Director for Bangladesh and Bhutan, highlighted progress in reforms such as iBAS++ and pension digitalisation, which have enhanced oversight and credibility.

Yet, he cautioned that institutional capacity, fiscal management, and public debt remain pressing challenges.

Bangladesh's tax-to-GDP ratio is among the lowest in South Asia, while liabilities from state-owned enterprises and contingent risks continue to expand,

the Finance Division noted.

The new framework emphasises resilience through improved macro-fiscal forecasting, integrated debt management, and transparent reporting of fiscal risks, it added.

The division expects the PFM Reform Strategy to position public finance as a cornerstone of economic governance, equity, and public trust as Bangladesh advances toward upper-middle-income status.

Its success will depend on sustained political commitment, stronger inter-agency coordination, and investment in public sector capacity, it added.

US unemployment rises further

AFP, Washington

The US jobless rate picked up again in November, hovering at its highest level in four years, official data showed Tuesday in a report underscoring a labor market cooldown in the world's biggest economy.

The report, delayed by a lengthy government shutdown, also indicated that the US economy lost 105,000 jobs in October.

Hiring picked up again in November with a gain of 64,000 jobs, but this was still a slower pace than before, according to the Labor Department figures.

"Employment rose in health care and construction in November, while (the) federal government continued to lose jobs," the department said.

There was a sharp decline of 162,000 government jobs in October, "as some federal employees who accepted a deferred resignation offer came off federal payrolls," the report added.

In November, unemployment climbed to 4.6 percent from 4.4 percent in September. It is the highest rate since September 2021.

There was no October jobless rate as officials were unable to retroactively collect data after the shutdown, which lasted until November 12. The figures will be closely scrutinized for their potential bearing on US interest rates.



Jobseekers speak with recruiters at a job fair in Sunrise, Florida. Hiring picked up in November with a gain of 64,000 jobs, but this was still a slower pace than before.

PHOTO: AFP/FILE

While President Donald Trump's tariffs have not sparked a broad inflation surge, firms say they have caused business costs to grow and fueled uncertainty.

Trump's chief economic adviser Kevin Hassett told reporters Tuesday that government workers who took buyouts "are staying in the labor force and looking for work."

He said he expects "that they'll be very successful with it."

Elizabeth Warren, the top Democrat on the Senate Banking Committee, slammed Trump's "chaotic tariffs" and economic policies, saying they were "hammering the labor market."

"With wages struggling to keep up with higher costs, it's no wonder Americans are more anxious about the economy than ever," she said.

In November, average hourly earnings climbed 0.1 percent to \$36.86, while wages rose 3.5 percent on an annual basis. But both numbers represent a slowdown from the prior month.

In another sign that the economy appears to be cooling, a separate report released Tuesday by the Commerce Department said that retail sales were flat in October at \$732.6 billion.

This came on the back of sales declines at motor vehicle and parts dealers, and gasoline stations. Consumers also pulled back at restaurants and bars.

"Americans are feeling squeezed," said Heather Long, chief economist at the Navy Federal Credit Union, adding that consumers were shifting to spending more on necessities.

On employment, Long said: "The US economy is in a jobs recession. The nation has added a mere 100,000 in the past six months."

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Project Director
Comprehensive Environmental Impact and Damage Assessment
of Rohingya Influx in Cox's Bazar and Bhasanchar of Chattogram Division
Department of Environment
E-16, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Invitation for Tenders (IFT)

Memo. No. 22.02.0000.020.14.002.25.117

Date: 17.12.2025

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change		
2	Agency	Department of Environment		
3	Procuring entity name	Project Director, Comprehensive Environmental Impact and Damage Assessment of Rohingya Influx in Cox's Bazar and Bhasanchar of Chattogram Division.		
4	Procuring entity district	Dhaka		
5	Invitation for	Transport hiring (Jeep)		
6	Issued date	17.12.2025		
7	Invitation Ref. No.	22.02.0000.020.14.002.25.117		
8	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (OTM); National Competitive Tender (NCT)		
9	Budget and source of funds	World Bank		
10	Project/program name	Comprehensive Environmental Impact and Damage Assessment of Rohingya Influx in Cox's Bazar and Bhasanchar of Chattogram Division.		
11	Tender Package No.	S-11 (Non-Consulting Service)		
12	Tender package name	Transport hiring (Jeep)		
13	Tender document last selling date	28/12/2025 (office hours)		
14	Tender closing date and time	29-12-2025 at 3:00pm		
15	Tender opening date and time	29-12-2025 at 3:30pm		
16	Name and address of the office of selling the tender document	Office of the Project Director, Comprehensive Environmental Impact and Damage Assessment of Rohingya Influx in Cox's Bazar and Bhasanchar of Chattogram Division, 1st Floor, Room-211, E-16, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change		
17	Name and address of the office of receiving & opening tender document	Office of the Project Director, Comprehensive Environmental Impact and Damage Assessment of Rohingya Influx in Cox's Bazar and Bhasanchar of Chattogram Division, 1st Floor, Room-211, E-16, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change		
18	Pre-tender meeting place, date and time	N/A		
19	Eligibility of tenderer	As per Tender Document		
20	Brief description of service	Transport hiring (Jeep), (including driver and fuel)		
21	Price of tender document	Tk.1000/- (one thousand) only [non-refundable]		
22	Identification of tender package	Location	Tender security amount (in Taka)	Completion time
23	Name of official inviting tender	Md. Samsuzzaman Sarker		
24	Designation of official inviting tender	Project Director, Comprehensive Environmental Impact and Damage Assessment of Rohingya Influx in Cox's Bazar and Bhasanchar of Chattogram Division, 1st Floor, E-16, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change		
25	Address of official inviting tender	Office of the Project Director, Comprehensive Environmental Impact and Damage Assessment of Rohingya Influx in Cox's Bazar and Bhasanchar of Chattogram Division, 1st Floor, E-16, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change		
26	Contact details of official inviting tender	Telephone: 88-(02)-222218378, E-mail: helpdoepd@gmail.com		
27	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Tenders.			

Md. Samsuzzaman Sarker
Project Director
Department of Environment
E-16, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka

GD-2764

CDBL declares 22% cash dividend

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The Central Depository Bangladesh Ltd (CDBL) has approved a 22 percent cash dividend for the 2024-25 fiscal year for its shareholders.

The declaration was made yesterday at the company's annual general meeting held at the DSE building in Dhaka.

The meeting was presided over by AKM Habibur Rahman, director of CDBL, while other directors — Naser Ezaz Bijoy, Md Shakil Rizvi, and Niranjan Chandra Debnath — were also present, along with Md Abdul Mutaleb, managing director and CEO of CDBL.

Last year, the company's profits grew by 8 percent year on year to Tk 65 crore.

Meanwhile, its earnings per share stood at Tk 3.25, up from Tk 2.99 in the previous fiscal year.

CDBL's net asset value per share was Tk 42.18 at the end of the 2024-25 fiscal year, compared to Tk 40.31 at the end of the previous year.

Amazon in talks to invest \$10b in OpenAI

REUTERS

Amazon.com Inc is in talks to invest in ChatGPT-maker OpenAI in a potential deal that could value the artificial intelligence firm at more than \$500 billion, a source familiar with the matter said on Tuesday.

Amazon may invest about \$10 billion in OpenAI, but the talks between the two firms are "very fluid", the source said on condition of anonymity because the matter is private.

The potential deal highlights the AI sector's relentless demand for computing power as companies race to build systems rivaling or surpassing human intelligence.

Firms such as Nvidia and Oracle have signed AI deals worth several billion dollars with OpenAI this year. OpenAI also signed a \$38-billion deal to buy cloud services from Amazon in November. However, investors are on guard for signals that demand for AI is tailing off or that the massive spending is not paying off as anticipated.

The discussion between Amazon and OpenAI come at a time when the AI giant is laying the groundwork for an initial public offering that could value the company at up to \$1 trillion, Reuters reported in October.

Bangladesh Lamps PLC.

House # 22, Road # 4, Block # F, Banani, Dhaka- 1213

NOTICE TO THE SHAREHOLDERS/ INVESTORS

[Transfer of Unpaid/Unclaimed Cash Dividend for the year 2021-2022 to the Capital Market Stabilization Fund]

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) Directive No. BSEC/CMRRC/2021-386/03 dated 14 January 2021 and the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (Capital Market Stabilization Fund) Rules, 2021, cash dividend, which remains unpaid or unclaimed or unsettled or undistributed for a period of 3 (three) years from the date of declaration or approval or record date or date of subscription or refund, as the case may be, are required to be transferred by the Company to the Capital Market Stabilization Fund (CMSF).

The concerned Shareholders/Investors are requested to claim the unpaid/ unclaimed cash dividend amount for the year 2021-2022 on or before 17 January 2026 with proper supporting documents at the Share Office of the Company.

Pursuant to the said BSEC Rules, the details of the concerned Shareholders/ Investors whose dividend amount are subject to transfer to CMSF have already been published on the Company's website: www.bll.com.bd

The Shareholders/Investors are requested to note that in case the Company does not receive any valid claim by 17 January 2026, the Company shall with a view to comply with the requirements of the said BSEC Directive and Rules, initiate the necessary actions to transfer the said dividend to the CMSF within the stipulated time.

For Bangladesh Lamps PLC.

Mohammad Ruhan Miah
Company Secretary

TRANSTEC
ON and AHEAD

Dhaka North City Corporation

Office of the Executive Engineer
Engineering Department, Electrical Circle
Gulshan Center Point, Level-9, Plot 23-26
Road-90, Gulshan-2, Dhaka

Date: 15/12/2025

Re-e-Tender Notice (OTM)

e-Tenders are invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of

Sl. No.	Tender ID No./Package No. & Reference No.	Name of the works	Document last selling date & time	Tender closing/opening date & time
01.	1192954, 46.10.0000.037.14.482.24 date: 26.12.2024	Supply of Telescopic Type Brand New 05 (Five) Nos. Hydraulic Beam Lifter for DNCC.	29-Dec-2025 12:00	29-Dec-2025 14:00

This is an online Re-Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender document from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches. Further information and guidelines are available in National e-GP System Portal and e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Md. Saiful Islam
Executive Engineer (Addl. Charge)
Electrical Circle
Dhaka North City Corporation
Phone: 02-222264778
E-mail: ee_elec@dncc.gov.bd

GD-2774