

# Rice inflation was high in Nov despite price fall: govt report

## STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Despite a modest fall in prices, rice inflation remained elevated in November, continuing to exert significant pressure on overall food inflation.

Rice was the single largest contributor to food inflation, accounting for 40.28 percent in November, down from 47.01 percent in October, according to the Economic Update and Outlook, a monthly publication of the General Economic Division (GED) under the Planning Commission, released yesterday.

The contribution from all major rice varieties declined during the month. Medium rice's contribution fell to 17.68 percent in November from 19.54 percent in October, fine rice declined to 6.57 percent from 7.20 percent, while coarse rice dropped to 12.65 percent from 16.81 percent.

Overall rice inflation also showed a clearer downward trend, easing to 12.26 percent in November from 13.77 percent in October.

Dry fish remained another major driver of food inflation, contributing slightly more than 39.33 percent in November.

As a result, general inflation edged up to 8.29 percent in November 2025 from 8.17 percent in October, with food inflation rising to 7.36 percent from 7.08 percent.

Non-food inflation, meanwhile, remained broadly stable at around 9 percent.

GED data also showed that the gap between price and wage inflation widened slightly in November. Price inflation stood at 8.29 percent, compared with wage inflation of 8.04 percent.

The revenue target for fiscal year 2025-26 (FY26) was set at Tk 4,99,000 crore, with a target of Tk 36,326 crore for November 2025. Actual revenue collection during the month stood at Tk 29,658 crore, falling short of the target by Tk 6,668 crore.

Meanwhile, the Annual Development Programme (ADP) utilisation in November 2025 showed some improvement compared to earlier months. However, expenditure remained lower than expected for this critical period, raising concerns about implementation momentum.

Bank deposits reached Tk 19,24,635.70 crore in October, registering a year-on-



year growth of 9.62 percent. This followed stronger growth in August, when deposits rose by 10.02 percent, and before easing marginally to 9.98 percent in September.

The sustained growth from August through October indicates continued depositor confidence and healthy savings mobilisation. November data has not yet been released.

Credit expansion showed moderate trends across segments in October. Public sector credit growth slowed to 21.43 percent from 24.45 percent in September, while private sector credit growth edged down slightly to 6.23 percent from 6.29 percent.

Overall domestic credit stood at Tk 23,35,885.40 crore, with growth decelerating to 9.62 percent from 10.20 percent a month earlier.

Foreign commercial banks recorded the highest interest rate spread at 8.88 percent in October, indicating wider margins between lending and deposit rates. In contrast, specialised and development banks posted the lowest spread at 3.37 percent, reflecting their mandate-driven operations and concessional lending.

State-owned and private commercial banks reported similar spreads of 5.69 percent and 5.59 percent, respectively, suggesting convergence in pricing behaviour.

# BTMA seeks 3-year extension of export incentive

## STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The Bangladesh Textile Mills Association (BTMA) has urged the government to extend the cash incentive on export receipts for three more years, until December 2028, to support the struggling textile industry.

In a letter to the finance secretary signed by BTMA President Showkat Aziz Russell yesterday, the association stated that the export-oriented textile sector and other manufacturing industries have faced substantial losses from exchange rate fluctuations while importing raw materials.

Contributing factors include the Ukraine-Russia and Israel-Palestine wars, the global economic crisis, sharp depreciation of the taka, a 250 percent rise in gas prices, a 70 percent increase in workers' salaries, recent political unrest, worker dissatisfaction,

and inadequate gas and electricity supply that prevents mills from operating at full capacity, the BTMA said.

The long-standing issues have also left large amounts of yarn unsold in spinning mills, causing continuous losses. Many mills have been forced to reduce production, which could further affect the export-oriented textile industry, the letter said.

In this situation, the BTMA stressed that extending the cash subsidy programme under Bangladesh Bank's FE Circular No. 28, currently valid until December 31, 2025, is crucial for the survival of the industry.

The primary textile sector under BTMA has an investment of about \$23 billion, the largest single investment in the private sector. The textile and apparel sector accounts for roughly 85 percent of Bangladesh's export earnings, with the

textile sector contributing 70 percent of that figure and around 30 percent of the country's foreign exchange. BTMA's member mills are therefore considered import-complementing industries.

In a separate letter to the central bank governor on December 23, BTMA requested an extension of the credit limit for importing industrial raw materials until December 31, 2026.

Previously, Bangladesh Bank had extended the credit period under FE Circular No. 08 and continued it under FE Circular No. 27, both of which expire on December 31, 2025.

BTMA stressed that importing basic raw materials like cotton and receiving export proceeds often take 270-300 days, far exceeding the current 180-day limit, making it urgent to extend FE Circular No. 08 for another year.

# Midland Bank signs deal with Marco Polo Dhaka Hotel

## STAR BUSINESS DESK

Midland Bank PLC has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Marco Polo Dhaka Hotel to provide special privileges to its cardholders.

The MoU signing ceremony was held on December 15 at Midland Bank's head office in Gulshan 2, Dhaka, according to a press release.

Md Nazmul Huda Sarkar, chief technology officer of Midland Bank, and Md Asraf Uddin, operations manager of Marco Polo Dhaka Hotel, signed the agreement on behalf of their respective organisations.

Under the agreement, Midland Bank cardholders using debit, credit and prepaid cards will enjoy a 50 percent discount on the hotel's published room rates.

They will also receive a 15 percent discount at the Polo Amber restaurant and Marco Street café, a 30 percent discount on bookings at the Sapphire banquet hall, and a 15 percent discount on services at Polo Spa.



Md Nazmul Huda Sarkar, chief technology officer of Midland Bank, and Md Asraf Uddin, operations manager of Marco Polo Dhaka Hotel, pose with the signed memorandum of understanding at Midland Bank's head office in Dhaka recently.

PHOTO: MIDLAND BANK PLC

Marco Polo Dhaka Hotel is a well-known hospitality destination in the capital, offering a range of accommodation and service facilities for both business and leisure travellers, as per the press release.

Md Rashadul Anwar, head of PRD at Midland Bank, and Marufa Nur Maria, assistant manager of sales and marketing at Marco Polo Dhaka Hotel, were also present at the event, along with other officials from both organisations.

# Jamuna Bank cardholders to get benefits at Best Western Plus

## STAR BUSINESS DESK

Jamuna Bank PLC signed a corporate agreement with Best Western Plus Bay Hills Hotel in Cox's Bazar on December 9, according to a press release.

The agreement was signed by Noor Mohammed, deputy managing director and chief business officer of Jamuna Bank PLC, and Tajuddin Mahmood, deputy managing director of Best Western Plus Bay Hills, at

Jamuna Bank Tower in Gulshan, Dhaka. Under the agreement, Best Western Plus Bay Hills will offer exclusive benefits to Jamuna Bank's cardholders and employees, including a 40 percent discount on room rent, a 10 percent discount on food and a 15 percent discount on banquet hall services.

AKM Atiqur Rahman, deputy managing director and chief information officer of Jamuna Bank, and other senior officials from both organisations were present.



PHOTO: JAMUNA BANK PLC

Noor Mohammed, deputy managing director and chief business officer of Jamuna Bank PLC, and Tajuddin Mahmood, deputy managing director of Best Western Plus Bay Hills Hotel, sign the agreement.

# IFIC Bank hosts 'Cashless Bangladesh Initiative' event in Jashore



Officials of IFIC Bank PLC and participants pose for photographs at the "Cashless Bangladesh Initiative" event in Jashore on December 23.

PHOTO: IFIC BANK PLC

## STAR BUSINESS DESK

Under the initiative of Bangladesh Bank, IFIC Bank PLC, as the lead bank, organised a series of day-long programmes in Jashore on December 23 to promote the expansion of the Cashless Bangladesh Initiative.

The event was held at the Jashore Software Technology Park, with Arif Hossain Khan, executive director of Bangladesh Bank, attending as the chief guest, according to a press release.

The seminar was presided over by Rafeza Akhter Kanta, director of the Payment Systems Department of Bangladesh Bank.

Among the special guests were Md Rukunuzzaman, executive director of the Khulna office of Bangladesh Bank, Md Tawmeed Hasan, assistant commissioner and executive magistrate, Jashore, and Syed Mansur Mustafa, managing director of IFIC Bank PLC.

The programme began with a public awareness rally, followed by a special seminar on the Cashless Bangladesh Initiative at the auditorium of the Jashore Software Technology Park.

During the seminar, speakers discussed the objectives, action plans and benefits of digital transactions under the initiative, alongside a question and answer session with participants.

Later in the day, participating banks arranged practical demonstrations of QR code-based payment systems at their respective booths. Through the day-long campaign, emphasis was placed on raising public awareness of digital transactions.

Senior officials of IFIC Bank, representatives of other banks and guests from various professional backgrounds were also present at the event.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Office of the Chief Controller of Stores  
Bangladesh Railway  
Pahartali, Chittagong-4202  
Telephone: 031-659604, E-mail: [ccspt@railway.gov.bd](mailto:ccspt@railway.gov.bd)  
No. CCS/e-GP Notice/2025 Date: 24/12/2025

## e-Tender Notice

### Notice No. 2025/42(Corrigendum-2)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Chief Controller of Stores, Bangladesh Railway, Pahartali, Chattogram for the Procurement of Goods as stated below:

Field Name	Old Value	New Value
No.	54.01.1543.636.88.317.25	30/04/2026
Completion Date(Lot No. 1)	30/06/2026	
Tender Id: 1173292		
Document last selling date & time	31/12/2026 10:00	01/02/2026 10:00
Repair of different types of Traction Motor required for 2300, 2400, 6000 & 6100 Series Locomotives (Meter Gauge) 34 Nos.		
Opening date & time	31/12/2025 13:00	01/02/2026 13:00
Last date & time for tender/proposal security submission	31/12/2025 11:00	01/02/2026 11:00
Start date (Lot No. 1)	01/01/2026	02/02/2026
Closing date & time	31/12/2025 13:00	01/02/2026 13:00
TDS/PDS-C Qualification criteria--	The minimum specific experience as a Prime Contractor or Subcontractor or Management Contractor in Similar works or Related Service under public sector of at least 1 contract(s) of Repair of Railway Traction Motor/Electrical/Roating Machine of the same capacity with necessary works successfully completed within the last 15 years, each with a value of at least Tk 30,00,000.00 (Thirty Lakh Only)	The minimum specific experience as a Prime Contractor or Subcontractor or Management Contractor in Similar works or Related Service under public sector of at least 1 contract(s) of Repair of Railway Traction Motor/Electrical/Roating Machine of the same capacity with necessary works successfully completed within the last 15 years, each with a value of at least Tk 3,00,00,000.00 (THREE CRORE TAKA ONLY)

This is an online 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 (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents for the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online branches of any registered bank branches.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

এস (২৫) (১৩২)

Md. Shariful Islam  
Assistant Controller of Stores/P2  
On the behalf of CCS/PHT



## Janata Bank PLC.

Head Office

IT Procurement, Security, Compliance and Maintenance Department  
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Tel: +02223356514, Fax: 88-02-9564644, Telex: 675840 JBD BJ  
Website: [www.jb.com.bd](http://www.jb.com.bd)

## Invitation for e-Tender

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following goods:

SL No.	Tender ID	Invitation Reference No.	Tender Description	Tender Publish Date & Time	Tender Closing Date & Time
01	1201190	JB/IT-Proc-57/OTM/Online-UPS/2025	Tender for Procurement of Online UPS (Supply, Installation & Commissioning) for Janata Bank PLC.	24.12.2025 02.30PM	08.01.2026 02.00 PM

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tenders 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. Further information and guidelines are available in the national e-GP portal and e-GP Help Desk (Email: [helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

(Mohammad Shakawat Hossain)  
Deputy General Manager

## Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer (RHD)

Road Division, Bhola.

Phone-02-4799-66160

E-mail: [eebho@rhd.gov.bd](mailto:eebho@rhd.gov.bd)

Memo No. 35.01.0918.404.34.001.20.2395

Date: - 24/12/2025

## Invitation for e-Tender (OTM)

e-Tender is invited in the national e-GP system portal for the following works:

Tender ID	1200172
Name of Tender	Repair Works of RHD Staff Quarter under Road Division Bhola, during the year 2025-2026. Package No-17/e-GP/Bho/RB/2025-2026
Tender Last Selling Date and Time	04-Jan-2026 17:00
Tender Closing & Opening Date and Time	05-Jan-2026 12:00

Tender ID	1200174
Name of Tender	Supplying of Geo-bags at Bhola RHD Stackyard for the Maintenance of different Roads of Road Division Bhola during the year 2025-2026. Package No-18/e-GP/Bho/Routine/2025-26
Tender Last Selling Date and Time	04-Jan-2026 17:00
Tender Closing & Opening Date and Time	05-Jan-2026 12:15

This is an online tender, where only e-tender will be accepted in e-GP portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted. To submit e-tender, please register on e-GP system. (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>). For more details please contact e-gp help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd))

(Md. Maidul Islam)  
ID No-602361  
Executive Engineer (C.C.), RHD  
Road Division, Bhola.