

# Gold smashes all records, surges to Tk 269,788

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Amid record highs in the global market, gold prices soared to a new peak of Tk 269,788 per bori in the local market, breaking all previous records.

Bangladesh Jewellers Association (Bajus) announced the new rate yesterday, made effective the same day.

The price has increased by 2.80 percent or Tk 7,348 per bori (11.664 grammes) from the previous rate of Tk 262,440.

In the announcement, Bajus said prices of pure gold have increased in the market.

Gold prices shot to record levels above \$5,200 in the international market yesterday, as investors sought a safe haven amid global political tensions.

Businesspeople said the country's retail gold market has remained volatile in recent months, influenced by fluctuations in global gold prices, steadily rising costs of pure gold, and ongoing economic uncertainty.

Gold first crossed Tk 50,000 per bori in January 2018. Five years later, in July 2023, it surpassed Tk 100,000.

Prices climbed to Tk 150,000 per bori in February 2025 and later surged past the Tk 200,000 mark within the same year.



An employee of a jewellery shop shows gold ornaments to customers in Rajshahi city. The price of the precious metal surged to a record Tk 269,788 per bori yesterday, tracking record highs in the global market.

PHOTO: AZAHAR UDDIN

## Economy stabilising

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Mahmud criticised the hidden costs of stabilisation, including bank recapitalisation using printed money, calling them "invisible but long-lasting consequences" of previous economic mismanagement.

On governance, he remarked, "This is an exceptional government -- neither fully political nor an NGO model. It came out of a mass uprising and is trying to uphold constitutionalism. We've never seen this kind of government before."

The businessman pointed out that while Bangladesh has adopted some of the IMF's recommendations, key structural reforms remain pending.

He highlighted inefficiencies and harassment in the business environment. "Even after paying taxes and submitting documents, importers face delays due to unnecessary bureaucracy and interference. These are micro-level operational issues that need urgent simplification," he urged.

On the energy crisis, Chowdhury said, "There's no LNG, no LPG, no infrastructure. The interim government has not engaged with the private sector or given clear policy directions. When the next government takes power, how will it manage this?"

Tofazzal

Hossain, Chairman of NLICL, called for ethical reform and integrity in Bangladesh's financial sector, warning against politically motivated bank licensing and poor governance.

Shamsul Huq Zahid, editor of The Financial Express, said the interim government inherited a fragile, near-collapsing economy which it managed to stabilise -- but true recovery remains distant.

He pointed to persistent high inflation, low private investment, and weak job creation, and cautioned that the next elected government will face these issues as legacy burdens.

"The new government may struggle in its first two to three years before achieving stability and growth," Zahid estimated.

Doulot Akter Mala, president of ERF, chaired the event, and Abul Kashem, general secretary of ERF, moderated the event. Among others, Syed Abdul Monem, acting managing director of BRAC Bank, and M Kamal Uddin Jasim, additional managing director (AMD) of Islami Bank Bangladesh PLC, also spoke at the event.

Expenditure on projects tied to foreign loans also fell sharply in absolute terms amid political uncertainty.

Earlier this month, the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) recommended giving top priority to implementing all foreign-funded ADP projects, citing the current state of the country's foreign exchange reserves.

ERD data showed that commitments of financing from international and bilateral lenders declined

## Young innovators

FROM PAGE B1  
United International University (UIU) represented the journey from Earth to outer space by showcasing a Mars rover designed to work in a simulated Martian environment. Built to withstand Mars-like weather, the rover can perform pick-and-drop tasks and take part in rescue missions.

The project has already won several competitions, including third place at a NASA contest in 2024.

"If we get government funding, we can showcase

our technology globally," said Ashil Al Islam Arpon, UIU's project coordinator. "Bangladesh's entry into aerospace technology may be small, but it is definitely a beginning."

Beyond the innovation stalls, the expo attracted large crowds to commercial booths selling laptops, computers, cameras, CCTV systems, smart gadgets, televisions, and smartphones.

Shakib Arif, founder of TechTime, said, "Customers were enjoying up to 25 percent off official iPhones, drawing an overwhelming response."

Md Jamnatul Naim, marketing lead at DX Group, reported strong sales thanks to heavy discounts on smartphones and televisions.

## Foreign loan inflows

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the Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division under the planning ministry.

as lenders awaited the country's political transition ahead of the national election scheduled for February 12.

ERD said funding promises fell 13 percent year-on-year to \$1.99 billion during July-December of FY2025-26, with the ADB pledging \$1.26 billion of the total.

Despite the decline in both commitments and disbursements, pressure to repay foreign loans increased.

Bangladesh's debt servicing rose 11 percent year-on-year, amounting to \$21.9 billion during the same period.

## Dollar struggles to recover from losses

AFP, Hong Kong

The dollar struggled to bounce back Wednesday following another sell-off fuelled by Donald Trump's suggestion he was happy with the currency's recent decline, while tech firms helped most Asian equity markets extend their rally.

Traders are also keeping an eye on the Federal Reserve's latest meeting, hoping for some guidance on its plans for interest rates amid uncertainty over the US president's policies following his latest tariff threats.

The greenback has retreated across the board this week following reports that the

## BSC receives new bulk vessel Banglar Nobojatra

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (BSC) officially received the delivery of its newly purchased bulk vessel MV Banglar Nobojatra on Tuesday.

Last year, BSC purchased two bulk carriers with its own funds for the first time. Banglar Nobojatra is the second and final vessel to be delivered.

The official delivery of the ship, previously named XCL Lion, was completed on January 27 at the London office of Stephenson Harwood LLP, the legal representative of the ship's US-based supplier firm Hellenic Dry Bulk Ventures LLC, according to a press release.

BSC Managing Director Commodore Mahmudul Malek, along with representatives from the shipping ministry and senior officials of the BSC, were physically present at a ceremony to receive the vessel. Senior BSC officials and crew members joined the event virtually from Nanyang Shipyard in China.

As per the purchase agreement, the vessel's physical delivery is scheduled to be completed today (January 29) at Jingjiang Nanyang Shipbuilding Co Ltd in China.

## Abolish minimum tax

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It also called for dropping the requirement for taxpayers to reconcile declared wealth with lifestyle expenditures, which the report said added administrative complexity without significantly boosting revenue.

It also advocated for a comprehensive re-evaluation of tax

exemptions granted to firms through statutory regulatory orders (SROs), arguing that many incentives lack transparency, are weakly monitored, and often fail to deliver the intended investment or employment outcomes.

"If these are reformed quickly, it will have a far-reaching positive impact on the economy," he added.

Finance Adviser Salehuddin Ahmed said the report would serve as a guideline.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Office of the Jail Super  
Bhola District Jail, Bhola.

Memo No. 58.04.7200.100.04.021.26-456

Date : 28.01.2026

### e-Tender Notice

This is to notify all concern that the following Re-tender is invited in the national e-GP portal:

Sl	Tender ID No.	Tender/Proposal Package Name	Tender Document Publishing, Last Selling & Opening Date & Time
01.	1220276	Procurement of Dietary Articles Schedule-ka Package No-1 for the Period of January /2026 to June/2026	Publishing : 27 January 2026 Time 13:30 Last Selling : 08 February 2026 Time 10:00 Opening : 08 February 2026 Time 11:00
02.	1220277	Procurement of Dietary Articles Schedule-ka Package No-2 for the Period of January /2026 to June/2026	Publishing : 27 January 2026 Time 13:30 Last Selling : 08 February 2026 Time 10:00 Opening : 08 February 2026 Time 11:10
03.	1220278	Procurement of Dietary Articles Schedule-ka Package No-3 for the Period of January /2026 to June/2026	Publishing : 27 January 2026 Time 13:30 Last Selling : 08 February 2026 Time 10:00 Opening : 08 February 2026 Time 11:20

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 Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. 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))

Shahriar Kumar Mazumder  
BJ-02720100279  
Jail Super  
Bhola District Jail, Bhola

GD-214



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
District Primary Education Office

Faridpur

[www.dpe.faridpur.gov.bd](http://www.dpe.faridpur.gov.bd)

Memo No. DPEO/Faridpur/e-GP/GPS/119

Date: 25 January 2026

### Invitation for Re-Tender (OTM)

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

Tender ID & method	Description of procurement	Tender last selling date & time	Tender closing/opening date & time
1216674 OTM	Furniture supply of 169 pair high-low benches, 133 Nos. table, 114 Nos. chair and 16 Nos. Rakes for selected 36 Nos. Govt Primary Schools of Charbhadrasan, Faridpur Sadar, Modhukhali, Sadarpur, Boalmari, Bhanga, Nagarkanda, Alfadanga and Saltha upazila of Faridpur district under Fourth Primary Education Development Program (PEDP 4).	16-February-2026, 17:00	17-February-2026, 14:00

These are online tenders where only e-Tender shall be accepted in the National e-GP System Portal. No offline or hard copies shall be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the Portal. The Procurement Entity (PE) reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

Md. Mohiuddin

District Primary Education Officer

Faridpur

[dpeofarid@gmail.com](mailto:dpeofarid@gmail.com)

## Allow banks

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They also sought stronger cooperation from land registry offices to ensure the swift transfer of mortgaged assets.

The association further suggested simplifying proceedings under the Money Loan Court Act. Its recommendations included limiting court adjournments, speeding up the enforcement of arrest warrants, restricting long-term instalment facilities and establishing dedicated loan recovery courts in districts with a high concentration of default cases.

The letter, signed by ABB Chairman and City Bank Managing Director Masrur Arefin, said the association hopes the central bank would move quickly to implement the proposals and help restore discipline and confidence in the banking sector.

To prevent new defaults, ABB proposed creating a central database of mortgaged land and valuation information under the BB. The system would allow lenders to verify collateral more efficiently and reduce risks at the lending stage.

ERD data showed that commitments of financing from international and bilateral lenders declined

as lenders awaited the country's political transition ahead of the national election scheduled for February 12.

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