Manufacturing, services

FROM PAGE B1

GDP is a measure of the final value of goods and services produced in an economy over a certain period.

A robust rebound in manufacturing and construction drove the industrial uptick, offsetting the slump in utility supply services, according to the national statistical agency.

Manufacturing was the main driver, with growth surging to 8.66 percent from 3.28 percent a year earlier. It was the highest growth in the sector in six quarters.

The construction sector also returned to positive growth, expanding 1.69 percent in the fourth quarter after contracting 4.47 percent in the same quarter of FY25.

The services sector, which accounts for the largest share of the economy, grew 4.28 percent in April-June, nearly doubling from 2.26 percent a year earlier.

The rebound in industry came despite continued weakness in electricity, gas and water supply services, which contracted 2.41 percent in the fourth quarter following a 3.56 percent decline in the previous quarter.

Agriculture, meanwhile, recorded slower growth of 1.73 percent in the fourth quarter, down from 3.19 percent a year earlier.

INTERPRET CAUTIOUSLY: ECONOMISTS

Abdur Razzaque, chairman of Research and Policy Integration for Development (RAPID), said the strong manufacturing growth warrants careful scrutiny.

"It is not immediately easy to reconcile such strong manufacturing growth with the broader conditions prevailing during the period, including energy supply constraints and the continued weakness of private-sector credit growth," he said.

While stating that the fourth-quarter GDP figure appears relatively strong, he said that it should be viewed against the unusually weak performance a year earlier.

In the same quarter of FY25, growth was exceptionally weak at just 2.05 percent.

"When economic activity recovered from that unusually low level, the year-on-year growth rate naturally appeared much higher. The latest figure does indicate some recovery, but it should not be interpreted as evidence of a broad-based or particularly strong acceleration in the economy," he said.

One possible explanation, he said, is that confidence improved, at least temporarily, following the February 2026 election, supporting some recovery in production and investment-related activity.

"If the manufacturing estimate is borne out by subsequent data, that may have contributed meaningfully to the stronger overall GDP number. Even so, the scale of the reported manufacturing rebound remains difficult to fully explain at this stage, and a clearer assessment will require more detailed sectoral and high-frequency data," Razzaque said.

M Masrur Reaz, chairman and CEO of Policy Exchange Bangladesh, said the quarterly growth could be described as moderately encouraging compared with the average growth recorded over the past two fiscal years.

He, however, added, "It is still far below what Bangladesh needs and what the economy is capable of achieving."

The Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) also points to an improvement in economic activity during the quarter. The average PMI rose to 56.8 in the fourth quarter from 54.4 in the previous quarter.

Reaz said the manufacturing sector showed some improvement in July, but momentum weakened in August and September.

Inflation edges up

FROM PAGE B1

in Bangladesh.

The World Bank said Bangladesh is South Asia's most dependent economy on fertiliser imports, with such imports exceeding 0.4 percent of GDP, making its agricultural sector and food prices vulnerable to spikes in input costs.

The lender noted that Bangladesh used fuel subsidies to slow the direct pass-through of global oil price increases into domestic retail consumer prices as it sought to tackle inflation.

Prof Deen Islam said the government's immediate priority should be to ensure that persistent high inflation does not impose a disproportionate burden on low-income households.

"Monetary and fiscal policies need to work together, while targeted social protection should shield the most vulnerable from the effects of elevated food and essential-service prices," he added.

Similarly, Fahmida said the government should expand social safety net programmes during this difficult time.

"Programmes such as open market sales (OMS) should be available to poor and low-income households. Targeted energy subsidies should be given to vulnerable households," said the economist.

Q-Cash services restored at 30 banks

FROM PAGE B1

Senior bank officials said Q-Cash gave them little notice, with some receiving SMS only hours before or after the upgrade began. The upgrade began on Sunday night and is scheduled to continue until noon on October 10.

On Tuesday, Bangladesh Bank summoned IT Consultants Limited, the operator of Q-Cash, and directed it to promptly restore card-related services.

Arief Hossain Khan, executive director and spokesperson of Bangladesh Bank, told The Daily Star that the services were restored Tuesday night and the issue had been resolved.

"We called in Q-Cash's management, and they told us it was an accident. Their server migration had been scheduled for October 28, but a server fault forced them to begin immediately. If they hadn't, a major disaster could have occurred. Even so, we have asked them for a written explanation," he said.

A senior BB official, requesting anonymity, alleged that the disruption stemmed from non-payment of dues to Compass Plus, the system's original equipment manufacturer, and poorly planned system activities.

Asked whether the incident was linked to a dispute with a foreign company, the BB spokesperson said, "We have no knowledge of this."

Kazi Saifuddin Munir, managing director and CEO of IT Consultants, did not respond to calls or WhatsApp messages from The Daily Star.

On October 5, Munir said the migration was scheduled for October 28, and the company had informed the banks and BB.

"However, due to unavoidable circumstances, we had no option but to proceed immediately with full migration to the new system," he said.

He said the company had provided the service to banks for 24 years without incident and was trying to make all services available by Thursday evening.

GPH Ispat seeks central bank help to reschedule Tk 12,000cr debt

FROM PAGE B1

GPH Ispat wants the relaxation to complete the ongoing restructuring and rescheduling, finalise documents and approvals with banks and financial institutions, arrange working capital to keep its normal business going, carry out its financial restructuring and deleveraging plan approved by regulators and lenders, and improve cash flow and its ability to repay and regularise its dues.

The company stressed that the request was aimed only at supporting its recovery and business continuity, not at evading or weakening any regulatory requirement. It said it remained committed to transparency with banks and compliance with all applicable laws, prudential rules and the BB directives.

The letter was signed by managing director Mohammad Jahangir Alam, who declined to comment when contacted.

An analysis of GPH Ispat's financial statements shows that it made a profit of more than Tk 100 crore only twice in the decade since FY2014-15, while repeatedly expanding capacity with bank loans. Its profit margin remained mostly below 5 percent.

According to its audited report, GPH Ispat, which was incorporated in 2006, had long-term loans of Tk 4,718 crore and short-term loans of Tk 2,802 crore at the end of the last fiscal year.

Sales fell by around 30 percent year-on-year to Tk 3,940 crore. Despite the decline, the company posted a profit of Tk 3 crore, compared with a loss of Tk 24 crore in the previous year.

GPH Ispat's annual production capacity includes 8.4 lakh tonnes of mild steel billets and 6.4 lakh tonnes of MS rods and medium sections.

In its FY25 annual report, the company said the country's total annual steel production capacity was around 13-15 million tonnes, while effective demand had declined sharply, pushing capacity utilisation down to roughly 30-40 percent.

It described the mismatch between capacity and demand as a major short-term challenge for the sector. The situation did not improve in the last fiscal year.

Dhaka to raise trade barrier issues

FROM PAGE B1

time when bilateral relations remain strained.

Trade relations between Bangladesh and India should be normal, as the two neighbouring countries are important sources of raw materials and finished goods for each other, he said. India could become a larger market for Bangladesh if trade barriers are reduced.

Once Bangladesh loses preferential market access after graduating from the group of Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Bangladeshi exporters may face a 20 percent duty on exports to India, compared with the current zero rate.

"It will come as a shock for Bangladeshi exporters," he said.

Bangladesh mainly exports garments to India, although agricultural and fisheries products are also exported there, he added.

In fiscal 2025-26, Bangladesh exported goods worth $1.75 billion to India and imported goods worth $10.96 billion, according to National Board of Revenue (NBR) data.

After China, India is Bangladesh's second-largest source of imports, with local traders importing large volumes of industrial raw materials, fabrics, yarn and cotton.

Beximco, Shinepukur boards reshuffled

FROM PAGE B1

companies will remain the same.

Shah Monjurul Hoque will be an independent director of Shinepukur, while another independent director will also be appointed in compliance with the Corporate Governance Code, 2018.

The omission of Salman F Rahman from the board lineup marks a significant governance shift for the Beximco Group companies as they move to align with regulatory compliance and safeguard investor interests.

Last month, Salman F Rahman expressed his intention to resign from the company's board, citing difficulties faced by its employees since the country's political changeover in 2024.

Salman, a former private industry and investment adviser to former prime minister Sheikh Hasina, has been in custody since his arrest following the fall of the Awami League government in August 2024.

Salman co-founded Beximco Pharmaceuticals in 1976. He has served on the company's board for many years and is currently its vice-chairman.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs
Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division
Transport and Purchase Section
Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka
www.legislativediv.gov.bd

Tender Notice No- 55.00.0000.000.105.07.009.25.647 Date: 07/10/2026

e-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of following works goods, details are given below:

Tender ID No:	Name of works	Procurement Method	Last Date & Time for Selling Document	Tender Closing Date & Time
1348237	Procurement of Other Manihari Items	NCT, OTM	19 Oct 2026 11:00	19 Oct 2026 15:00

This is the online Tender and method of tender is OTM. Only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and offline/hard copy will not be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration is required in the National e-GP System (www.eprocure.gov.bd). If the fee for downloading the e-Tender document from the National e-GP System Portal is required it has to be deposited online through any registered bank.

07.10.2026
(Md. Imam Hossain)
Assistant Secretary
Transport and Purchase Section
Phone: 55100573

GD-2433

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়,
গণপূর্ত বিভাগ, পাবনা।
ফোন ঃ ০২৫৮৮৮৪৬০৬৬।

পুনঃ নিলাম দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

পুনঃ নিলাম দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং- ০২(দুই) অর্থ বছর ২০২৬-২০২৭ ইং

এতদ্বারা পাবনা গণপূর্ত বিভাগের অধীনস্থ পাবনা মানসিক হাসপাতাল এলাকায় অবস্থিত পুরাতন জরাজীর্ণ ব্যবহারের অযোগ্য পরিত্যক্ত ০২ (দুই) টি ভবন **(যাহা ০২ (দুই) গ্রুপে বিভক্ত)** যেখানে যে অবস্থায় আছে সেই অবস্থায় নিলামে বিক্রয় এর জন্য আগ্রহী ব্যক্তি/ঠিকাদার/ফার্ম এবং গণপূর্ত অধিদপ্তরের সকল শ্রেণীর ঠিকাদার/ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হইতে সীলমোহরকৃত নিলাম দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইতেছে।

১।	কাজের নাম	ঃ	পাবনা গণপূর্ত বিভাগের অধীনস্থ পাবনা মানসিক হাসপাতাল এলাকায় অবস্থিত পুরাতন জরাজীর্ণ ব্যবহারের অযোগ্য পরিত্যক্ত ০২ (দুই)টি ভবন অপসারণ এর পুনঃ নিলাম (গ্রুপ লিস্ট সংযুক্ত)।
২।	নিলাম দরপত্র বিক্রয়কারী দপ্তরের নাম	ঃ	নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর অফিসসহ নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, গণপূর্ত বিভাগ-১,২ রাজশাহী /নাটোর/নওগাঁ/ চাঁপাইনবাবগঞ্জ/বগুড়া/জয়পুরহাট/সিরাজগঞ্জ ।
৩।	নিলাম বিজ্ঞপ্তির সূত্র	ঃ	১। স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবার কল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয়, স্বাস্থ্য সেবা বিভাগ, ঢাকার স্মারক নং-৪৫.০০.০০০০. ০০০.১৫৬.৯৫.০০০৪.২৬-৭৩ তারিখ-২৩/০২/২০২৬ খ্রিঃ। ২। অতিরিক্ত প্রধান প্রকৌশলী, রাজশাহী গণপূর্ত জোন, রাজশাহী কার্যালয়ের স্মারক নং-১৬৮ তারিখ-১০/০৩/২০২৬ খ্রিঃ।
৪।	দরপত্র আহবানের স্মারক নং ও তারিখ	ঃ	স্মারক নং-৮৯৫ তারিখ- ০৭/১০ /২০২৬ খ্রিঃ
৫।	দরপত্র গ্রহণের স্থান	ঃ	১। নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়, গণপূর্ত বিভাগ, পাবনা। ২। জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয়, পাবনা। ৩। পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়, পাবনা।
৬।	নিলাম দরপত্র তফশীল বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ	ঃ	২৭ /১০/২০২৬ খ্রিঃ পর্যন্ত (অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে) ।
৭।	নিলাম দরপত্র গ্রহনের তারিখ ও সময়	ঃ	২৮/১০/২০২৬ খ্রিঃ বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত ।
৮।	নিলাম দরপত্র খোলার স্থান	ঃ	নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়, পাবনা গণপূর্ত বিভাগ, পাবনা।
৯।	নিলাম দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	ঃ	২৮/১০/২০২৬ খ্রিঃ সময় বেলা ৩.০০ ঘটিকা।
১০।	নিলাম দরপত্র তফশীলের মূল্য	ঃ	গ্রুপ লিস্ট এর প্রতিটি লটের জন্য নিলাম দরপত্র তফসিল মূল্য টাকা ঃ ৫০০/- (পাঁচশত) মাত্র (অফেরতযোগ্য)
১১।	জামানতের টাকা	ঃ	উদ্ধৃত দরের মোট মূল্যের উপর ২০% (শতকরা বিশ ভাগ) টাকা নিম্ন স্বাক্ষরকারীর অনুকূলে যে কোন তফশীল ব্যাংক হতে ব্যাংকে ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডার নিলাম দরপত্রের সাথে অবশ্যই দাখিল করতে হবে ।
১২।	কর্তৃপক্ষ সকল বা যে কোন দরপত্র কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে গ্রহণ বা প্রত্যাখান করার অধিকার/ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন/ রাখেন।		
১৩।	নিলাম দরপত্রের সংগে নিলাম দরপত্র ক্রয়ের মূল রশিদ অবশ্যই সংযুক্ত করিতে হইবে।		

অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী নোটিশ বোর্ড/অফিসে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে দেখতে পাওয়া যাবে।

07/10/26
উপ-সহকারী প্রকৌশলী
(সিভিল)
গণপূর্ত বিভাগ, পাবনা।

সহকারী প্রকৌশলী
গণপূর্ত বিভাগ, পাবনা।

07/10/26
(মোঃ রাশেদ কবির)
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী
গণপূর্ত বিভাগ, পাবনা।

GD-2436

বাংলাদেশ পেট্রোলিয়াম এক্সপ্লোরেশন এন্ড প্রোডাকশন কোম্পানী লিমিটেড (বাপেক্স)
BANGLADESH PETROLEUM EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION CO. LTD (BAPEX)
A Company of Petrobangla
Foreign Purchase Department, Administration Division
BAPEX Bhaban (Level-4), 4, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh

Invitation for International Competitive Tender (ICT)

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources/ Energy & Mineral Resources Division
2	Agency	Bangladesh Oil, Gas and Mineral Corporation (Petrobangla)
3	Company	Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration & Production Company Limited (BAPEX).
4	Procuring Entity Name	General Manager, Administration Division, BAPEX.
5	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka.
6	Invitation for	Procurement of Data Acquisition Equipment (Seismic Drilling Machine & Accessories for 3D Seismic Survey over Charfession).
7	Invitation Ref No	BAPEX/ ADMIN/INT/TEN-1356/2026
8	Date	Date: 04-10-2026
KEY INFORMATION		
9	Procurement Method	One Stage Two Envelopes Method (OSTEM)
FUNDING INFORMATION		
10	Budget and Source of Funds	GDF (Gas Development Fund) & BAPEX Own Fund
PARTICULAR INFORMATION		
11	Project / Program Name (if applicable)	3D Seismic Survey Over Charfesson.
12	Tender Package No.	GD-4
13	Tender Package Name	Procurement of Data Acquisition Equipment (Seismic Drilling Machine & Accessories for 3D Seismic Survey over Charfession).
		Date
14	Tender Publication Date	08-10-2026
15	Tender Last Selling Date	30-11-2026 at 15.00 (BST)
		Date / Time
16	Tender Closing Date and Time	01-12-2026 / 11.30 (BST)
17	Tender Opening Date and Time	01-12-2026 / 11.00 (BST)
18	Name & Address of the office(s)	Address
	- Selling Tender Document (Principal)	Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration & Production Co. Ltd. (BAPEX); Accounts & Finance Division, BAPEX Bhaban (Level-3), 4 Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215.
	- Selling Tender Document (Others)	1. Petrobangla; Accounts Division, Petrocenter, 3, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka 2. Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Ltd (TGTDCL); Accounts Division,105 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka-1215.
NO CONDITIONS APPLY FOR SALE, PURCHASE OR DISTRIBUTION OF TENDER DOCUMENTS		
19	- Receiving Tender Document	Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration & Production Co. Ltd. (BAPEX); Room No-401, Foreign Purchase Department, Level-4, BAPEX Bhaban, 4, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215.
	- Opening Tender Document	Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration & Production Co. Ltd. (BAPEX); Room No-401, Foreign Purchase Department, Level-4, BAPEX Bhaban, 4, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215.
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER		
20	Brief Eligibility and Qualification of Tenderer	a) The minimum of years of general experience of the Tenderer in the supply of Goods and related services as Supplier shall be 05 (Five) years. b) The minimum specific experience as Supplier in supply of similar Goods and related services of at least 02 (two) contract(s) successfully completed within the last 05 (Five) years, each with a value of at least USD 1,15,000.00 (One Lac Fifteen Thousand US Dollars) c) The minimum supply and/or production capacity of Goods is/ are: 100 Drilling Machines supply and/or production capacity per year. d) The minimum amount of financial resources as liquid asset or working capital or credit line(s) or specific credit commitment or in any combination of them, of the Tenderers shall be USD 1,50,000.00 (One Lac Fifty Thousand US dollars). e) Bonafide manufacturers/suppliers/Tenderer of their authorized agents of all countries except which countries do not have any diplomatic relation with Bangladesh.
21	Brief Description of Goods	Data Acquisition Equipment (Seismic Drilling Machine & Accessories).
22	Language of Tender	Tenders shall be written in the English language. Correspondences Supporting documents and printed literature furnished by the Tenderers that are part of the Tender shall be written in English or accompanied by an accurate translation of the relevant passages in the English.
23	Price of Tender Document [Currency (ies)]	BDT 13,800.00 or USD 112.00 (Non-refundable) including VAT.

24	Lot No	Identification of Lot	Location	Tender Security Amount (Proposal shall be made as per Tender Document ITT Clause No-32)	Completion Time of Delivery in Weeks/Months
	1	Procurement of Data Acquisition Equipment (Seismic Drilling Machine & Accessories).	Regional Store, Chittagong, BAPEX	USD 4,300.00 (Four Thousand Three Hundred) or BDT 5,30,000.00 (Five Lakh Thirty Thousand).	150 days from the date of receipt of L/C.

25	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Md. Asad Ullah.		
26	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	General Manager (Admin)		
27	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Room No-501, Administration Division, Level-5, BAPEX Bhaban, 4 Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215.		
28	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	+8802-55011774	+88-01713129683	gmadmin@bapex.com.bd/purchase.bapex@gmail.com /purchase@bapex.com.bd
29	The Tender will be conducted as per the PPA-2006 & PPR-2025. This Tender Notice will also be available at website of Petrobangla (www.petrobangla.org.bd), BAPEX (www.BAPEX.com.bd), BPPA (www.bppa.gov.bd) & DG Market (www.dgmarket.com).			
30	The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all the Tenders or annul the Tender proceedings.			

GD-2435

General Manager (Admin)