Govt eases rule on yarn release from port

REFAYET ULLAH MIRDHA

The government has allowed the release of 10- to 30-count yarn without bank guarantees from the port, which was imported through letters of credit (LCs) opened before September 7.

But yarn imported through LCs opened after that date will require bank guarantees, the National Board of Revenue (NBR) said in a circular yesterday.

However, local spinners argued against allowing yarn imports without bank guarantees, saying easing the process would harm the domestic industry as they are capable of supplying these kinds of yarns, for which dependence on foreign sources is not needed.

The 10- to 30-count yarns are widely consumed mainly for making fabrics for knitwear items such as T-shirts, polo shirts and trousers.

Earlier, local garment exporters raised their voices when the customs department denied releasing yarn without bank guarantees, which was imported through LCs opened before September 7 following a commerce ministry circular published on the same date.

In another circular on September 13, the ministry withdrew the condition of having a bank guarantee, but so far, customs officials have been denying receiving any go-ahead from the authorities concerned to release the yarn without such a guarantee.

Because of this mix-up, garment exporters feared having to resort to expensive air shipments.

"I was supposed to ship the finished knit trousers to my buyers in October and November, made from the imported 100 tonnes of yarn," said a garment exporter asking not to be named.

"So, I have to send the goods through expensive air shipment to maintain the strict lead time, for which I cannot make any profit from this shipment."

AkijBashir joins

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system supported by battery energy storage, allowing the facility to use solar-generated electricity beyond daylight hours and reduce exposure to load-shedding.

The glass facility also combines solar power with waste-heat-recovery steam-turbine generation. AkijBashir Group said 71 percent of the facility's energy is sourced from renewable sources.

At Janata Jute Mills, rooftop solar meets the mill's full electricity demand, supported by battery storage that extends the use of renewable energy beyond daytime generation.

Meanwhile, Akij Particle Board Mills has installed an 8.1 MWp rooftop solar photovoltaic system, which is expected to generate around 9.3 million kilowatt-hours of clean electricity annually and avoid about 7,452 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions each year.

The group has also worked with Infrastructure Development Company Limited (IDCOL) on renewable-energy and energy-efficiency projects and is pursuing measures such as waste-heat recovery, water reuse, net metering and more efficient production technologies.

Govt repurchases Tk 1,716cr T-bonds

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investor demand and the structure of government borrowing.

A Bangladesh Bank official said the government normally repays such bonds only when they mature. "Usually, the government has to pay interest until maturity. Since these bonds were bought back about a month early, the government will not have to pay interest for that month," he said.

But the bigger benefit, according to the Finance Division, is managing the repayment schedule rather than simply saving a month's interest.

The finance ministry said the buyback would reduce the burden of large repayments falling due at the same time, lower refinancing risk and help make the government securities market more efficient.

"A buyback allows the government to repurchase outstanding securities from the market before maturity, and it is a widely recognised Liability Management Operation (LMO) tool," the ministry said in a statement.

As of March 2026, the government's outstanding debt through treasury bonds and special purpose treasury bonds stood at Tk 6,28,168 crore. Debt through shariah-based bonds, or sukuk, stood at Tk 36,500 crore, according to finance ministry data.

The ministry said the buyback marked a step towards more active, modern and market-based debt management and was part of efforts to balance the cost and risk of public borrowing.

The government may conduct more buyback auctions in line with its Medium-Term Debt Management Strategy, taking into account market conditions, liquidity, investor demand, its cash position and the structure of public debt, the ministry said.

The auction also gives banks another option for managing their holdings of government bonds. Banks that need cash can sell some of their bonds before maturity, while those that are comfortable holding them can wait for repayment.

Market reaction, however, has been mixed. Some banks, especially those facing liquidity shortages, are interested in selling, while others prefer to hold the bonds until maturity.

Govt secures

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Based on the six-month SOFR rate of 3.68 percent on October 1, the indicative interest rate is about 5.38 percent.

Each drawdown must be repaid in full in a single payment after six months. As the loan is expected to be rolled over at the end of each period, the central bank's outstanding exposure would be about $195 million at any one time, according to a committee document.

The exposure could rise to a maximum of $1.25 billion if repayments were delayed.

To ensure uninterrupted fuel imports, the committee's chair cleared the proposal on an urgent basis, following which the full committee approved it.

The two sides reached a preliminary agreement on the financing amounts at a negotiation meeting on June 29.

Bangladesh classifies a loan as non-concessional when its grant element -- a measure of how far its terms are softer than market rates -- falls below 25 percent.

Such loans face tighter scrutiny under the government's debt rules, which cap annual debt servicing on this type of borrowing at the lower of 10 percent of export earnings or 15 percent of revenue.

UN sets up group to review support for LDC graduation

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requests are under consideration and that a decision could come from the General Assembly this month.

The ministerial declaration also said LDCs can derive significant benefits from a universal, rules-based, open, transparent, predictable, inclusive, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization.

The declaration expressed concern that the multilateral trading system is increasingly under threat, with trade restrictions, including tariffs inconsistent with WTO rules, principles and commitments, rising globally amid heightened trade tensions and stalled multilateral negotiations.

Bangladesh to launch sovereign AI within a year

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use its computing infrastructure, he added.

The government is also working to secure high-end graphics processing units (GPUs), which are needed to train and run advanced AI models.

Rehan said Bangladesh would be able to secure the world's best GPUs for government data centres and Bangladesh-owned private companies through ongoing government-to-government discussions.

Securing high-end GPUs can be difficult, as delivery times can stretch to several years even when buyers have sufficient funds, he said.

"We will not face challenges in securing GPUs very soon," Rehan said, adding that work was underway to ensure access to advanced computing hardware.

The government is also working to secure memory chips and plans to hold discussions with major industry players, with the aim of ensuring adequate supplies of both computing and memory chips for the next decade.

POWER, WATER CONCERNS

Power and water availability will be major considerations in developing AI infrastructure, Rehan said.

A conventional Google search uses about 0.3 watt-hours of electricity, while an AI-generated response on current platforms can use around 2.9 watt-hours, he said. This means AI computing is much more power-intensive.

Although AI systems are expected to become more efficient as the technology advances, overall electricity demand will remain a concern, he added.

Water availability is also important because AI infrastructure requires significant cooling capacity.

The government is therefore considering both power and water availability when selecting locations for AI facilities, Rehan said.

He added that the facilities would have multiple power sources and their own power-generation capacity instead of relying entirely on the national grid, as uninterrupted power is essential for such operations.

Ashfaq Zaman, founder of Dhaka Forum, said Bangladesh already has the basic building blocks of a digital state, including biometric NIDs, mobile financial services, a national QR code standard, around 300 million archived Bangla documents and D-Nothi across 17,000 offices.

"The real constraint is not the lack of systems but their failure to connect. AI can help bridge this gap. A single Bangla large language model for the government, trained on public-sector documents and hosted domestically, could help officials review drafts instead of starting from scratch," said Ashfaq, who delivered a keynote at the event.

If each officer saves 20 minutes a day, 250,000 officers could save about 10,400 working years each year, he said.

Such gains should be measured through public-service targets covering time, cost and the number of interactions required, turning AI into a measurable governance reform, Ashfaq said.

He added that this would allow AI adoption to be assessed based on measurable improvements in public services rather than simply treating it as an information technology project.

Md Ismail Zabihullah, adviser to the prime minister on public administration affairs, said AI is no longer just a policy ambition but is becoming a practical tool for transforming public administration.

AI-enabled recruitment and postings, along with a unified digital identity and wallet, can make government services faster, more transparent and more citizen-focused, he said.

At the same time, strong data protection and cybersecurity must remain a priority.

Bangladesh should also move beyond being a technology consumer and build the capacity to develop, own and export high-value technology products and AI-based services, he added.

Humaiun Kobir, state minister-1 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Shama Obaed Islam, state minister-2, also spoke.

National Bank

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National Bank incurred nearly Tk 9,000 crore in losses in the four years since 2022. In 2025, the private bank suffered a loss of Tk 2,430 crore, which is 41 percent higher than the previous year's loss of Tk 1,722 crore, according to its annual report.

The bank's non-performing loan ratio to total outstanding loans stood at 59.69 percent at the end of 2025.

At the meeting, National Bank Chairman Melita Mehjabeen told the governor that the central bank's recent measures had made good governance possible at the bank, and that positive changes had been made in senior management to improve its efficiency and capability.

The latest decision to provide liquidity to the bank comes after four depositors of the bank approached the High Court last month seeking access to their savings.

NBL, one of the oldest private banks in Bangladesh, is among the lenders that received uncollateralised liquidity support from BB over the last several years amid fund shortages and high non-performing loans.

As of early June 2026, BB had provided Tk 76,000 crore ($6.2 billion) in liquidity support to weak banks, said Finance Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury in parliament in late June. NBL received Tk 10,568 crore from the central bank.

The largest share of the BB support went to First Security Islami Bank, with outstanding borrowing of Tk 15,810 crore. BB also provided Tk 12,010 crore to EXIM Bank, Tk 10,841 crore to Social Islami Bank, Tk 5,420 crore to Union Bank and Tk 5,000 crore to Premier Bank.

Private-sector activity falls to lowest since Aug 2024: PMI

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contracted, while employment remained unchanged. Input costs continued to expand strongly but at a slightly slower rate. Order backlogs reverted to expansion," the MCCI-PEB report said.

Services recorded a second consecutive month of marginal contraction, with its index declining 0.2 points to 49.0.

"New business and business activity reverted to contraction, while employment experienced slower contraction. Input costs expanded strongly while order backlogs remained in contraction," the report said.

Agriculture remained the only sector in expansion, extending its growth streak to 13 months. Its index, however, declined 1.3 points to 55.2 as new business, business activity and employment expanded more slowly, while input costs continued to expand strongly despite a slight reduction.

The latest PMI reading comes after the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics reported that the economy grew 4.6 percent in the April-June quarter, more than twice the 2.05 percent growth recorded a year earlier.

The rebound was supported by stronger growth in manufacturing and services, although economists cautioned that weak private-sector credit, energy supply constraints and financial-sector vulnerabilities continued to weigh on the economy.

"Bangladesh's economic dynamism remains under pressure, as weakness in manufacturing, construction and services weighed on overall performance," PEB Chairman and CEO M Masrur Reaz said on the latest PMI readings.

He said agriculture's expansion provided resilience and positive expectations offered a basis for recovery.

The Future Business Index pointed to expansion across all four sectors, reflecting cautious optimism about business conditions in the coming months, according to the report.

"Strengthening domestic and export demand, ensuring reliable energy supply, easing financing constraints and containing cost pressures will be important to restore momentum," Masrur said.

The PMI, initiated with support from the UK government, has been published by MCCI and PEB since 2024.

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
EDUCATION ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
BRAHMANBARIA

Invitation for e-Tender

Tender Notice No: 17/e-GP/EED/BRAH/5974SHED/2025-26 **Date: 07/10/2026**

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

SL No.	Tender ID	Name of Work	Tender Document Last Selling/ Date & Time	Last Date and Time for Tender/Proposal Security Submission	Tender Opening Date & Time
1	1348179	Repair & Renovation Works (FY: 2025-26) at Paharpur Union High School, Bijoynagar Upazila, Brahmanbaria.	26-Oct-2026 15:30	26-Oct-2026 16:00	27-Oct-2026 12:00
2	1348180	Repair & Renovation Works (FY: 2025-26) at Merasani Polytechnic Academy, Bijoynagar Upazila, Brahmanbaria	26-Oct-2026 15:30	26-Oct-2026 16:00	27-Oct-2026 12:00
3	1348181	Repair & Renovation Works (FY: 2025-26) at Gokorna Syed Wali Ullah School & College, Nasirnagar Upazila, Brahmanbaria.	26-Oct-2026 15:30	26-Oct-2026 16:00	27-Oct-2026 12:00
4	1348182	Repair & Renovation Works (FY: 2025-26) at Chilokut High School, Sadar Upazila, Brahmanbaria	26-Oct-2026 15:30	26-Oct-2026 16:00	27-Oct-2026 12:00

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 (www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents of following Package from the National e-GP System portal have to be deposited online through any registered Bank's Branches up to the Following Date & Time. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

07.10.26
(Khandaker Nazmul Islam)
Executive Engineer
Education Engineering Department
Brahmanbaria.

GD-2452

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Civil Surgeon
Civil Surgeon Office, Sirajganj.
E-mail: serajganj@cs.dghs.gov.bd

Memo No.CS/SIRAJ/e-GP-TENDER/2026-2027/ 2017 Date: 08-October-2026

e-Tender Notice (NCT)

e-Tender is in the e-GP System Portal (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procuring of following goods.

Tender ID	Name of Tender	Package No	Last Selling Date	Closing & Opening Date	Remarks
1345569	Supply of MSR Goods (Non-EDCL Medicine) for Khokshabari 10 bed Hospital, Sirajganj in FY 2026-2027	KHOKSHA/SIRAJ/ 26-27/MSR-09	18-Oct-2026 11:00 pm	18-Oct-2026 12:00:00 pm	OTM
1345570	Supply of MSR Goods (Gauze-Bandage-Cotton) for Khokshabari 10 bed Hospital, Sirajganj in FY 2026-2027	KHOKSHA/SIRAJ/ 26-27/MSR-10	18-Oct-2026 11:00 pm	18-Oct-2026 12:00:00 pm	OTM
1345651	Supply of MSR Goods (Instrument) for Khokshabari 10 bed Hospital, Sirajganj in FY 2026-2027	KHOKSHA/SIRAJ/ 26-27/MSR-12	18-Oct-2026 11:00 pm	18-Oct-2026 12:00:00 pm	OTM
1345654	Supply of MSR Goods (Linen Items) for Khokshabari 10 bed Hospital, Sirajganj in FY 2026-2027	KHOKSHA/SIRAJ/ 26-27/MSR-15	18-Oct-2026 11:00 pm	18-Oct-2026 12:00:00 pm	OTM
1345650	Supply of MSR Goods (Hospital Furniture) for Khokshabari 10 bed Hospital, Sirajganj in FY 2026-2027	KHOKSHA/SIRAJ/ 26-27/MSR-11	18-Oct-2026 11:00 pm	18-Oct-2026 12:00:00 pm	OTM
1345652	Supply of Patient's Food Items for Khokshabari 10 bed Hospital, Sirajganj in FY 2026-2027	KHOKSHA/SIRAJ/ 26-27/MSR-13	18-Oct-2026 11:00 pm	18-Oct-2026 12:00:00 pm	OTM
1345653	Supply of Goods (Linen Washing) for Khokshabari 10 bed Hospital, Sirajganj in FY 2026-2027	KHOKSHA/SIRAJ/ 26-27/MSR-14	18-Oct-2026 11:00 pm	18-Oct-2026 12:00:00 pm	OTM

1. 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.
2. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP system portal (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required.
3. Details about the Tender have shown in e-Tender notice and e-Tender document. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP help Desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

(Dr. Md Nurul Amin)
Civil Surgeon
Civil Surgeon Office, Sirajganj.

GD-2450