Energy security hinges on execution of reform roadmap: ICCB

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Bangladesh must reduce its reliance on imported energy by accelerating domestic gas exploration and scaling up renewable power to shield industries from global fuel price shocks and supply disruptions, the International Chamber of Commerce Bangladesh (ICCB) said.

The country's emerging "Energy Roadmap" offers an opportunity to improve energy security, affordability and sustainability, but its success will depend on effective implementation, policy predictability and greater private-sector investment, according to an editorial of the News Bulletin (July-September 2026) released by ICCB, the global business organisation, yesterday.

Bangladesh's installed power generation capacity stood at 32,688 megawatts (MW), including captive and renewable power, as of September 15, while the highest recorded generation was 17,201MW on May 20 this year.

The gap between installed capacity and actual peak generation highlights the need to look beyond capacity expansion, with reliable fuel supplies, efficient transmission and distribution networks, and financially sustainable operations also critical to meeting industrial demand, the editorial said.

Under the government's Five-Year Strategic Framework for Reform and Development for July 2026 to June 2031, Bangladesh plans to strengthen domestic gas exploration, modernise the grid, improve demand management and expand renewable energy, including a target of 10,000MW of solar capacity.

The country's emerging "Energy Roadmap" offers an opportunity to improve energy security, affordability and sustainability, but its success will depend on effective implementation and policy predictability, the ICCB said

A programme to drill and work over 150 gas wells is under way, with a further 150 envisaged in the next phase. By mid-September, 31 wells under the first programme had reportedly been drilled or worked over, generating an estimated additional 286 million cubic feet of gas per day.

The ICCB editorial called for faster exploration, particularly through a stronger Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration and Production Company Ltd (BAPEX), alongside capable international partners.

However, domestic exploration alone will not eliminate supply risks. Volatility in liquefied natural gas (LNG) markets and disruptions to major shipping routes have underscored the need to diversify external energy sources, it said.

The government plans to expand LNG receiving capacity through a 600 million cubic feet per day facility at Maheshkhali by 2028 and a 1,000 million cubic feet per day land-based terminal at Matarbari by 2030. Such infrastructure could improve supply resilience, but LNG expansion should complement rather than displace domestic resource development and renewable energy, the editorial noted.

Bangladesh is also targeting at least 20 percent of its electricity from renewable sources by 2030 and 30 percent by 2040.

German envoy visits AKIJ Resource factories to explore cooperation

STAR BUSINESS DESK

A delegation led by German Ambassador to Bangladesh Rüdiger Lotz visited two AKIJ Resource factories in Narayanganj on Tuesday to explore opportunities for industrial cooperation, technology exchange and investment between Bangladesh and Germany.

The delegation toured AKIJ Cement Company Limited and AKIJ Essentials Limited, discussing production capacity, technological advancement, resource efficiency and sustainable manufacturing.

Welcoming the ambassador and his delegation, Mohammad Towfique Hasan, chief business development officer of AKIJ Resource, said, "We are honoured to welcome Rüdiger Lotz and the delegation from the German Embassy to our manufacturing facilities."

"We attach great importance to such exchanges and believe that sharing experiences and maintaining regular engagement can help create new opportunities for industrial and commercial cooperation between Bangladesh and Germany," he added.



German Ambassador to Bangladesh Rüdiger Lotz poses for a photograph with members of the delegation and officials of AKIJ Cement Company Limited and AKIJ Essentials Limited after visiting the companies' facilities in Narayanganj on Tuesday. PHOTO: AKIJ RESOURCE

Asadul Haque Sufyani, cluster chief executive officer of AKIJ Building Solutions, said Bangladesh's industrial sector was undergoing continuous modernisation, with technology, product quality, operational efficiency and environmentally responsible manufacturing becoming increasingly important.

"The German ambassador's visit provides a valuable opportunity to showcase our manufacturing capabilities and industrial operations, while facilitating the exchange of experience and discussions on potential areas of future cooperation," he said.

Shera Radhuni opens registration for 9th season



Md Parvez Saiful Islam, chief executive officer of Square Food & Beverage Limited, poses for a photograph after launching the 9th season of cooking reality show "Shera Radhuni" at a press conference held at Sheraton Dhaka in the capital's Banani on Wednesday. PHOTO: SQUARE GROUP

STAR BUSINESS DESK

The 9th season of cooking reality show Shera Radhuni will offer a top prize of Tk 15 lakh with registration open until November 15 for aspiring cooks across Bangladesh.

Organised by Square Food & Beverage Limited under its popular Radhuni brand, the competition was launched by Md Parvez Saiful Islam, chief executive officer of the company, at a press conference at Sheraton Dhaka in Banani on Wednesday, according to a press release. This season's theme, "Jibon-bodoler Recipe" (Life-changing recipe), reflects the show's aim of transforming lives by recognising culinary talent across the country.

The judging panel comprises Chef Subhabrata Maitra, chief operating officer and executive chef of Indulge Food & Beverage Limited; Chef Shahid Shahin, executive pastry chef of Le Méridien Dhaka; and actress Jaya Ahsan.

Television host and actress Mousumi Mou will host the programme.

Bangladeshi citizens aged over 18 can apply by submitting their recipes and personal details through the official website or by SMS.

Following divisional auditions across the country, selected contestants will compete in a studio round in Dhaka. They will be judged on taste, presentation, nutritional value, innovation and leadership qualities.

The winner will receive Tk 15 lakh, while the first and second runners-up will get Tk 10 lakh and Tk 5 lakh, respectively.

Prime Bank launches student education programme with SIMEC



Foara Yasmin, treasurer of SIMEC Foundation, and Md Ziaur Rahman, additional managing director and chief risk officer of Prime Bank PLC, pose for a photograph after signing the memorandum of understanding at the bank's head office in Dhaka recently. PHOTO: PRIME BANK

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Prime Bank PLC has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with SIMEC Foundation to launch "Building Better Citizens in Bangladesh", an adolescent education initiative aimed at promoting essential life skills, environmental awareness, personal hygiene and moral values among school students across the country.

Md Ziaur Rahman, additional managing director and chief risk officer of the bank, and Foara Yasmin, treasurer of the foundation, signed the MoU recently at the bank's head office in Dhaka, according to a press release.

Commenting on the partnership, Ziaur Rahman said, "At Prime Bank, we believe that true nation-building begins with investing in the knowledge and values of our younger generation."

"Through our partnership with SIMEC Foundation under the 'Building Better Citizens in Bangladesh' initiative, we are proud to support essential learning on hygiene, climate responsibility and moral education for students across all eight divisions of the country."

"This collaboration reflects our steadfast commitment to youth empowerment, values-based education and the development of sustainable and resilient communities for the future," he added.

The 12-month initiative will initially be implemented in 64 schools across all eight divisions of Bangladesh, directly benefiting approximately 13,000 primary and secondary school students.

The programme will feature structured, participatory learning modules covering three key areas: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH); climate and environmental awareness; and moral education and social responsibility.



Sheikh Mohammad Ashfaque, deputy managing director and head of branch distribution network at BRAC Bank PLC, and Mohammod Hamdur Rahaman, executive director of DHS Motors Limited, pose for a photograph after signing a memorandum of understanding in Dhaka recently to offer the bank's premium customers benefits on GAC and Honda vehicles. Mahabubul Farook Khan, head of national sales, retail banking at the bank, and Tunvir Rahman, regional head of distribution network, among others, were also present. PHOTO: BRAC BANK

UCB holds RMG conclave to promote sustainable industry

STAR BUSINESS DESK

The United Commercial Bank PLC (UCB) recently organised a business conclave with senior garment and textile industry representatives to promote export competitiveness, energy security and sustainability challenges facing the sector.

The UCB RMG Business Conclave 2026 was held at The Westin Dhaka on October 13 under the theme "Beyond Resilience: Building a Competitive & Sustainable RMG Industry", the bank said in a press statement on Wednesday.

Mohammad Mamdudur Rashid, chief executive officer of UCB, attended the event as chief guest. Other senior bank officials and industry representatives also took part.

A panel discussion titled "The Landscape – Textile & Garments Sector: Overview, Outlook & Opportunity" focused on the industry's current conditions and future prospects.



Participants on stage at the UCB RMG Business Conclave 2026 at The Westin Dhaka on October 13. PHOTO: UCB

The panellists included Riaz Shahdat, vice-president of Pearl Global Group; Md Kamruzzaman Kaiser, finance director of Micro Fibre Group; Abdullah Yousuf Khan, chief business officer of Anwar Group's textile division; and Bishwajit Lodh, chief financial officer of Evince Group. Discussions covered energy security, environmental, social and governance (ESG) compliance, export competitiveness and technology-driven manufacturing. Participants also exchanged views on industry challenges and opportunities in international markets.



Amir Humayun Mahmud Chowdhury, chairman of Chattogram Port Users Forum, inaugurates the deposit product, "AB Century", launched by AB Bank PLC, at the bank's Dewanhat branch in Chattogram recently. Feroz Ahmed, vice-chairman of the bank, Adil Chowdhury, managing director, ZM Babar Khan, additional managing director, and Iftekhar Enam Awal, deputy managing director, were also present. PHOTO: AB BANK

DBH Finance posts 9% net profit growth

STAR BUSINESS DESK

DBH Finance PLC reported a net profit after tax of Tk 80.77 crore, up 9 percent from Tk 74.38 crore in the corresponding period of the previous year.

Earnings per share (EPS) rose to Tk 3.98 from Tk 3.67 in the same period last year, according to a press release. Net asset value (NAV) per share stood at Tk 52.03 as of September 30, 2026, compared with Tk 49.55 as of December 31, 2025.

Commenting on the company's performance, Nasimul Baten, managing director and CEO of the non-bank financial institution, said, "Our performance for the first nine months of 2026 reflects our continued focus on operational efficiency, responsible financial management, prudent risk control and customer-centric service.

"Despite challenging market conditions, we remain focused on delivering sustainable growth while helping more people achieve their dream of home ownership," he added.

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH.
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, RHD
ROAD DIVISION, JHALAKATHI.
E-mail: eejha@rhd.gov.bd

Memo No-35.01.4240.432.04.012.26-1608 (3) Date: 15/10/2026

Invitation for e-Tenders (OTM)

Sl. No	Name of Works	Tender ID No	Tender Security	Last Selling Date & Time	Closing/ Opening Date & Time
01	**13/e-GP/JRD/2026-2027** Supplying and Installation of Reflective Road stud, Traffic sign, Sign post, Chevron & Road Marking work from Ch. 0+000 (Dapdapia Zero Point) to Ch. 1+014 (Dopdopia Ferry Ghat) of Dapdapia Old Ferry ghat (Z-8050) and Ch.8+783 (Karapur Bailey Bridge) Km. to Ch.15+650 (Himanandakati) of Barishal-Karapur-Nabagram-Swarupkathi Road (Z-8037) under jhalokathi Road Division during the year 2026-2027.	1354736	50000/-	04-11-2026 04-00 PM	05-11-2026 12-00 PM

01. These are online tender, where only e-tender will be accepted in e-GP portal.
02. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required.

15.10.2026
Executive Engineer, RHD
Jhalakathi Road Division.

GD-2522