DHAKA THURSDAY OCTOBER 29, 2026, KARTIK 13, 1433 BS
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Business


B4

'SUFFICIENT SUPPLIES IN PIPELINE AHEAD OF RAMADAN'

Firms linked to UCB chairman eye Tk 100cr bank stake

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Two companies associated with United Commercial Bank PLC (UCB) Chairman Sharif Zahir have expressed their intention to buy Tk 103 crore worth of the bank's shares at yesterday's closing price, after the Bangladesh Bank recently eased the shareholding limit for the investors.

Ananta Denim Technology Ltd intends to buy 8.2 crore ordinary shares of UCB, and Z

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PRICE SENSITIVE INFORMATION

Bank Asia

This is for information of all concerned that the Board of Directors of Bank Asia PLC. in its 595th meeting held today, the 28 October 2026, at 3:00 p.m. at the Board Room of the Bank at Bank Asia Tower, 32 & 34 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215 has approved the proposal for establishing a wholly owned subsidiary of the Bank in Hong Kong with an initial capital injection of HK$ 6 million over three years to commence operations under a Money Lending License and to expand its international banking operations, strengthen cross-border trade finance business, and capitalize on growing trade and investment between Bangladesh and China, subject to obtaining the necessary approval from Bangladesh Bank and completing the applicable incorporation and licensing formalities in Hong Kong.

Bank Asia PLC.
Corporate Office, Bank Asia Tower
32 & 34, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue
Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215

Dated: Dhaka
28 October 2026

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB)
(An autonomous body under the Ministry of Commerce, Government of Bangladesh)
CA Bhaban, 100 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh

PUBLIC NOTICE

VERIFICATION OF AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB) has noted with serious concern instances where financial statements have been represented as having been audited by Chartered Accountants, despite indications that the corresponding audit reports were not issued by individuals or firms duly authorized to conduct statutory audits. Such instances may involve the unauthorized use, forgery, or misrepresentation of the name, signature, seal, firm identity, or professional credentials of a Chartered Accountant and/or a CA firm.

ICAB's Document Verification System (DVS) enables stakeholders to verify the authenticity of the audited financial statements and the relevant particulars of the Chartered Accountant/CA firm through the DVS.

VERIFY BEFORE YOU RELY
ICAB Document Verification System (DVS)
https://dvs.icab.org.bd/Home/firmCompanyAudited

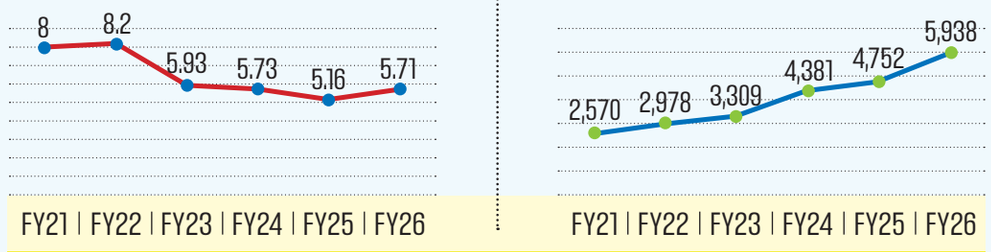
For the purpose of safeguarding the integrity of financial reporting and protecting the public interest all banks, financial institutions, regulators, government agencies, companies and other stakeholders are requested to:

1. Verify the authenticity of audited financial statements and the particulars of the auditor through ICAB's DVS portal.
2. Refrain from accepting or relying upon any audited financial statements that cannot be satisfactorily verified through DVS or where the authenticity or authority of the purported auditor is in doubt.
3. Report to ICAB any suspected false, fabricated or unauthorized audit report, including suspected misuse of the name, signature, seal or credentials of a Chartered Accountant or CA firm.

ICAB will take appropriate action in accordance with applicable laws, professional requirements and its regulatory procedures and, where necessary, refer the matter to the appropriate authority.

Fruit revenue doubles to Tk 6,000cr in 5yrs though imports fall

FRESH FRUIT IMPORTS AND REVENUE FROM FY21 TO FY26



SOURCE: NBR DATA COMPILED BY BTTC

SOHEL PARVEZ

Bangladesh collected nearly Tk 6,000 crore in import duties on fresh fruits such as apples, oranges, grapes and mandarins in the fiscal year 2025-26, almost double its revenue five years earlier, even as import volumes slumped.

Private importers brought in 5.7 lakh tonnes of these fruits, most of which are not grown in Bangladesh, in FY26. That was 29 percent less than five years earlier, according to an analysis by the Bangladesh Trade and Tariff Commission (BTTC).

Imports of apples and oranges fell sharply.

The commission carried out the analysis amid public anger over the high prices of imported fruit. Demand for some varieties has risen as dengue admissions to hospitals and emergency wards have stayed high this year. Patients with viral infections are often advised to drink fluids and eat vitamin C-rich oranges.

Years of persistent inflation have also eroded the purchasing power of low and fixed-income families, leaving them less able to afford fruit.

Data from the Department of Agricultural Marketing (DAM) show that two years ago apples, a popular import, retailed in Dhaka at between Tk 250 and Tk 340 a kilogramme.

Yesterday, consumers had to pay Tk 300 to Tk 400 for the same quantity.

Several years ago, consumers could buy one kilogramme of apples in the capital for less than Tk 300, when import volumes were higher and the total tax incidence on imports of fruits, including apples, oranges, mandarins, grapes and pears, was roughly 89 percent.

The BTTC, which submitted its report to the commerce ministry, said Bangladesh imported 8 lakh tonnes of fresh fruit in FY21, when total import taxes, including customs duties, regulatory duties and other taxes, stood at 89.32 percent.

Import volumes began to fall after the National Board of Revenue (NBR) raised tariffs from FY22. The board has since pushed total taxes to 121.78 percent in the current fiscal year, FY27.

The increases followed the dollar crisis in 2023,

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NBR faces Tk 42,000cr revenue shortfall in Q1

MD ASADUZ ZAMAN

The National Board of Revenue (NBR) fell Tk 41,879 crore short of its revenue target in the first quarter of the current fiscal year, as collection grew by less than 2 percent year-on-year.

The tax authority collected Tk 92,517 crore in July-September against a target of Tk 134,396 crore, according to NBR sources. Collection stood at Tk 90,825 crore in the same period of the previous fiscal year.

NBR officials partly attributed the sluggish collection to a change in value-added tax (VAT) return rules, which allowed businesses to file returns quarterly instead of monthly.

Many businesses did not submit returns in July and August, contributing to lower VAT collection in September, they said.

The government restored monthly VAT return filing earlier this month amid concerns over revenue collection and operational difficulties.

Officials, however, said the change was not the sole reason for the shortfall. They also blamed poor management by the current NBR administration and a lack of dynamism among field-level officials.

The weak start has raised concerns over the NBR's ability to meet its ambitious annual revenue target of more than Tk 600,000 crore.

Md Deen Islam, research director of the Research

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Robi grows, GP slips in revenue and profit

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Robi Axiata, the country's second-largest telecom operator, recorded higher revenue and profit in the first nine months of this year, while rival Grameenphone (GP), the country's largest operator, saw both indicators decline.

During the January-September period, Robi's revenue rose

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PRICE SENSITIVE INFORMATION

This is for information of all concerned that the Board of Directors of Bank Asia PLC. in its 595th meeting held at 3:00 p.m. on 28 October 2026, in the Board Room of the Bank Asia Tower (Level-10), 32 & 34 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215, has approved the un-audited financial statements of the Bank for the third quarter ended on 30 September 2026 and disclosed the following financial indicators of the Bank:

Particulars	1 January 2026 to 30 September 2026		1 January 2025 to 30 September 2025	
	Taka (Solo)	Taka (Consolidated)	Taka (Solo)	Taka (Consolidated)
Net Asset Value (NAV) per Share	28.57	28.46	27.02	26.99
Net Operating Cash Flow per Share (NOCFPS)*	66.10	66.13	37.78	38.17

Particulars	1 January 2026 to 30 September 2026		1 January 2025 to 30 September 2025		1 July 2026 to 30 September 2026		1 July 2025 to 30 September 2025	
	Taka (Solo)	Taka (Consolidated)	Taka (Solo)	Taka (Consolidated)	Taka (Solo)	Taka (Consolidated)	Taka (Solo)	Taka (Consolidated)
Earnings per Share (EPS)**	3.31	3.24	2.38	2.37	1.50	1.47	0.28	0.27

* Net Operating Cash Flow per Share (NOCFPS) increased due to cash inflow by way of increase in deposit and borrowings.
** Higher net profit after tax resulted increased in Earnings per Share (EPS) compared to same quarter of last year.

The details of un-audited financial statements of the Bank for the third quarter ended on 30 September 2026 will also be available on the website of the Bank at 'www.bankasia-bd.com'.

Dated: Dhaka
28 October 2026

Bank Asia

Corporate Office
Bank Asia Tower, 32 & 34 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue
Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215