

ECONOMY AT A GLANCE

Bangladesh now 39th most valuable nation brand

Bangladesh has moved up by five notches this year and ranked 39th out of 100 valuable nation brands in the Nation Brands 2018 report. The report, published by London-based Brand Finance recently, says the nation brand value of the country reached \$257 billion in the current year. In 2017, Bangladesh was ranked 44th in the Nation Brands 2017 and its brand value was worth \$208 billion. Thus, Bangladesh's nation brand value has increased by 24 per cent in a year.

Exports make robust growth in September

The export earnings reached \$3.14 billion in September, the third month of current fiscal (2018-19). The country fetched \$2.03 billion during the corresponding period of previous fiscal.



The surge in garment exports has pushed the country's single-month earnings to hit a record 54.64 per cent growth in September 2018. According to the data released by the Export Promotion Bureau, the earnings also surpassed the target set for the month by 14.74 per cent.

BB issues new guidelines for credit risk management

Bangladesh Bank has issued a set of guidelines for credit risk management for the country's scheduled banks with an aim to make the system more effective and time-befitting. The Banking Regulations and Policy Department (BRPD) of the central bank informed about the newly-adopted "Guidelines on Internal Credit Risk Rating System for Banks". The new model and guidelines will remain effective until June 30, 2019, according to the BB circular. The central bank said once the new guidelines are followed properly, proper persons and organization will get loans easily and the volume of the default loans of banks would be reduced. The circular said the new model of guidelines has 20 sub-sectors under four main sectors. Meanwhile, 20 individual models were also included in the guidelines considering the characteristics, risk, financial capacity and efficiency of the management of each of the sub-sectors.

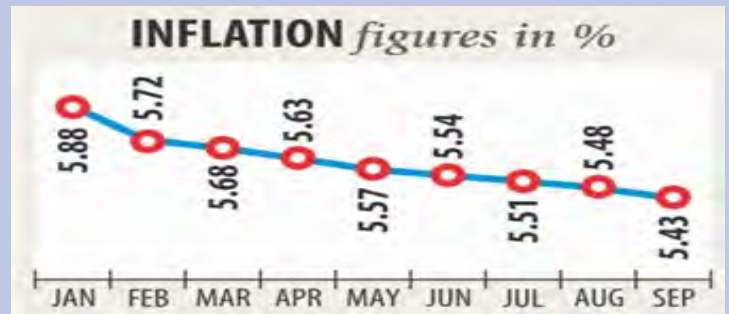
Banks' liquidity sees sharp rise

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After enduring a serious cash crunch since the end of 2017, the banking sector has started to witness a sharp rise in excess liquidity. The excess liquidity went up 27 percent in the second quarter this year in comparison to the previous quarter thanks to the relaxing of the cash reserve requirement (CRR). Banks were sitting on an additional liquidity of Tk 97,500 crore at the end of June, 2018 up from Tk 76,900 crore in March, according to Bangladesh Bank's latest data. On April 4, the central bank reduced the CRR by one percentage point to 5.5 percent to ease the liquidity condition.

Inflation drops to 18-month low

Inflation crawled down to its lowest in 18 months in September on the back of the continuous fall in food prices. In September, inflation stood at 5.43 percent, down 5 basis points from the previous month, according to Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics.



In September, food inflation fell 55 basis points to 5.42 percent from the previous month. This was preceded by 21 basis points decline the previous month. Non-food inflation though shot up 72 basis points to 5.45 percent last month.

Bangladesh 176th among 190 nations in ease of doing business

Bangladesh has topped the list of countries that saw the quickest growth in the number of ultra-wealthy people between 2012 and 2017, according to a new report from New York-based research firm Wealth-X. The number of ultra-high

DOING BUSINESS RANKINGS			
	2019	2018	Up/Down
India	77	100	↑ 23 notches
Bhutan	81	75	↓ 6 notches
Sri Lanka	100	111	↑ 11 notches
Nepal	110	105	↓ 5 notches
Pakistan	136	147	↑ 11 notches
Maldives	139	136	↓ 3 notches
Afghanistan	167	183	↑ 16 notches
Myanmar	171	171	
Bangladesh	176	177	↑ 1 notch

The Washington-based multilateral lender's Doing Business report, sheds light on how easy or difficult it is for a local entrepreneur to open and run a small to medium-sized business when complying with relevant regulations.

The report points out changes in regulations affecting 10 areas in the life cycle of a business: starting a business, dealing with construction permits, getting electricity, registering property, getting credit, protecting minority investors, paying taxes, trading across borders, enforcing contracts and resolving insolvency.

Loan write-offs balloon in 2nd Quarter

Loans written off by banks soared in the second quarter of 2018 as efforts to clean up balance sheets petered out. Between the months of April and June, the amount of loans written off by lenders stood at Tk 615 crore, an increase of 4.36 times from three months earlier.



The amount took the tally of written-off loans since January 2003, when the policy was introduced, to Tk 48,890 crore, according to data from the central bank.

REAL ESTATE NEWS

Int'l exhibition on power, real estate kicks off in Dhaka on Oct 25

A three-day long international exhibition, particularly on power, construction and real estate sectors of Bangladesh, kicks off in Dhaka on October 25, aiming at creating a platform for entrepreneurs and consumers to build a productive business network. It hold at the International Convention City Bashundhara.

The event comprises 21st power Bangladesh 2018, 23rd con-expo Bangladesh, 19th real estate expo 2018, Dhaka International lighting expo 2018, 16th solar Bangladesh 2018, and 3rd international safety and security expo Bangladesh 2018. A total of 20 countries, 220 organizations having 480 stalls participated in this exhibition.

BD to miss SDG target at present pace of housing

The overall housing situation of the country is poor compared to the pace of development with 6.0 million housing shortages, according to experts. The government's contribution is only 1.0 per cent of the total demand for housing, the experts observed. Bangladesh will not be able to achieve the sustainable development goals' 11th target of housing for all by 2030 if the current trend continues, they said. They suggested social housing either by public or private or by the both. They made the views at a seminar on 'Housing for All' hosted by the Bangladesh Institute of Planners (BIP) in the capital, marking World Habitat Day 2018. About housing deficit in Dhaka city, they refer an imbalance between the total number of households and the total housing stock. The floor area per person is as small as 12 square meters, according to experts.

NATIONAL HOUSING NEWS

3 Days Basic Training Program for 3rd Batch MTOs

NHFIL arranged a 3 days basic training program for its newly recruited 3rd batch MTOs held on its Corporate Head Office at Concord Baksh Tower (7th Floor), Plot: 11A, Road-48, Block-CWN(A), Gulshan-2, Dhaka. Honorable Chairman of BLFCA and NHFIL's Managing Director, Mr. Md. Khalilur Rahman inaugurated the program. Deputy Managing Director of NHFIL, Mr. S.M. Anisuzzaman and senior officials of the company were also present. The training sessions were conducted by resourceful persons of NHFIL with successful completion. There was a certificate giving ceremony at the concluding part of the program. he honorable Chairman of Audit Committee and Independent Director of NHFIL, Mr. Syed Tanveer Hussain, distributed the certificates among the MTOs and gave a brief inspirational speech.



নিজের বাড়িতে সবই সম্ভব!

ন্যাশনাল হাউজিং দিচ্ছে সহজ হোম লোনের সুবিধা। এবার গুন করে দিন স্বপ্নকে সত্যি করার কাজ।
বাড়ি গড়ুন যেভাবে খুশি, বাস করুন নিজের মতো করে।

NATIONAL HOUSING
বস্তুত্বের সোসাইটি

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