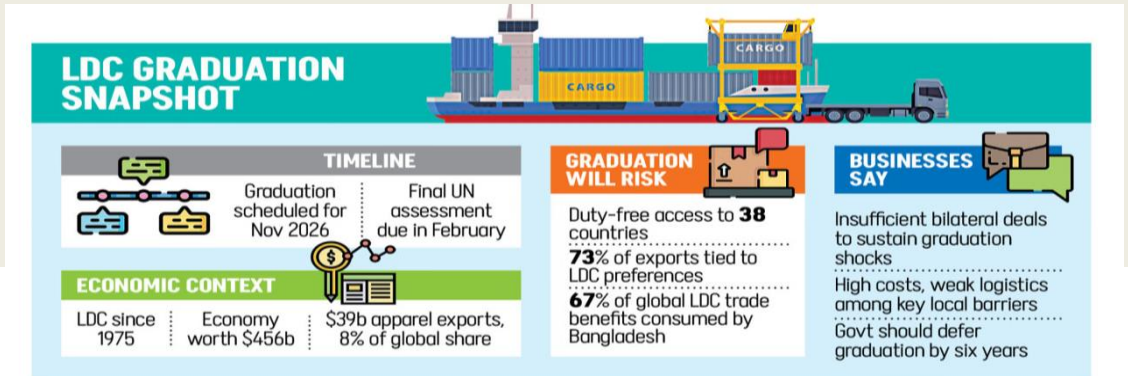


# AMC WEEKLY SPOTLIGHT

COURTESY OF AMC RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT TEAM



## ICAB to Host International Conference on AI and Sustainability

PUBLICATION DATE: DECEMBER 28, 2026

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB) will organize an international conference titled “Next Generation Profession: Converging AI and Sustainability Reporting” on 16–17 January 2026 at Le Meridien, Dhaka.

The conference will feature technical sessions on ethics, technology, and sustainability assurance. Mr. Jean Bouquot, President of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC), will attend as Guest of Honour, marking his first participation in an ICAB conference.

Participants will receive 10 CPD credit hours, and the registration fee has been set at **Tk. 5,000.**

Source: <https://www.icab.org.bd/news/international-conference-on-next-generation-profession-converging-ai-and-sustainability-reporting>



## New tax rules for citizens leaving Bangladesh and expats filing abroad

Under the Income Tax Act 2023 of Bangladesh, special provisions have been introduced for individuals who plan to leave Bangladesh permanently and for Bangladeshi taxpayers residing abroad. For those leaving the country, the tax assessment must cover all income earned during their stay up to the date of departure. Tax can be determined before the end of the income year and will include income up to the departure date, which will be treated as part of the relevant fiscal year. The Deputy Commissioner of Taxes may issue a notice directing the individual to submit a return and necessary documents within a specified time frame.

For Bangladeshi taxpayers living abroad, the

Picture Caption: Businesses underprepared as LDC graduation clock ticks

With less than eleven months left before Bangladesh exits the least developed country club, businesses say they are still not adequately prepared to face the harsher realities of a post LDC world.

## Businesses Seek Delay as Bangladesh Nears LDC Graduation

With less than 11 months remaining before Bangladesh exits the Least Developed Country (LDC) category in November 2026, business leaders say the country is not sufficiently prepared to cope with the challenges of a post-LDC economy. Their primary concern is the lack of trade agreements to replace existing preferential market access once LDC benefits expire.

Exporters warn that without adequate preparation, Bangladesh could lose at least **\$8 billion annually**, around **14 percent of total export earnings**, as duty-free and preferential access to key markets fades. Currently, about **73 percent of exports** benefit from LDC trade preferences across **38 countries and trade blocs**, with Bangladesh accounting for **67 percent of total LDC preference utilisation globally.**

Although the interim government has reaffirmed its commitment to the November 2026 graduation deadline, it has invited the **UN Committee for Development Policy (UNCDP)** to assess readiness amid strong opposition from businesses. Following an initial review last November, a second assessment is scheduled for February, coinciding with the national election.

Bangladesh’s heavy reliance on the garment sector—worth **\$39 billion** last year and nearly **8 percent of the global market**—adds to vulnerability, economists say. Limited product diversification, high production costs, infrastructure bottlenecks, energy shortages, and policy uncertainty further undermine competitiveness.

To ease the transition, the government adopted a **Smooth Transition Strategy (STS)**, focusing on

new trade deals. However, progress has been slow. So far, only one preferential trade agreement—with Bhutan—has taken effect. An Economic Partnership Agreement with Japan is expected soon, while negotiations with the EU, South Korea, UAE, Indonesia, RCEP, and Asian remain ongoing without firm timelines.

Leaders of major trade bodies have urged the government to seek at least a **six-year deferral**, arguing that premature graduation could severely damage exports and employment. Some economists agree that preparation remains inadequate, though others see graduation as an opportunity to push long-delayed reforms if handled carefully.

Source: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/businesses-underprepared-ldc-graduation-clock-ticks-4072506>

### New Income Tax Slabs for Bangladesh

(Assessment Year (AY) 2025-26  
 (Income from July 2024 to June 2025))

| Total Annual Income (BDT) | Tax Rate (%) |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| First BDT 350,000         | Nil (0%)     |
| Next 100,000              | 5%           |
| Next 400,000              | 10%          |
| Next 500,000              | 15%          |
| Next 500,000              | 20%          |
| Next 2,000,000            | 25%          |
| Remaining income          | 30%          |

**Key Points for AY 2025-26:**

- Basic tax-free income threshold remains BDT 350,000.
- Progressive tax structure with higher income taxed at higher rates.
- Non-resident individuals (non-Bangladeshi citizens) pay flat 30%.

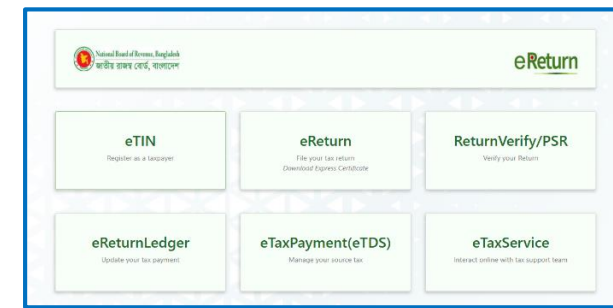
| Category                              | Tax-Free Thresholds by Category (AY 2025-26) |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| General                               | BDT 350,000                                  |
| Women / Age 65+                       | BDT 400,000                                  |
| Third Gender / Physically Challenged  | BDT 475,000                                  |
| Gazetted War-Wounded Freedom Fighters | BDT 500,000                                  |

**Note:**

- These slab rates effective from 1 July 2024 in FY 2025-26. Approved by Finance Ordinance 2025.
- Minimum tax provisions may apply to certain taxpayers regardless of computed tax liability.

National Board of Revenue (NBR) allows electronic filing (e-Return) of income tax returns. Expatriates can register for online filing by emailing their details to the NBR and can receive a one-time password (OTP) via email instead of a mobile number, enabling filing from abroad. The purpose of these provisions is to ensure transparent tax compliance and proper tax collection on income earned before departure.

**Source:** <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/new-tax-rules-citizens-leaving-bangladesh-and-expats-filing-abroad-4073081>



## NBR eases e-return filing for Bangladeshi taxpayers residing abroad

*The tax collection agency introduces a system that allows OTPs to be sent to the expatriate taxpayers' email addresses*

Bangladeshi taxpayers living abroad can now submit their online income tax returns using an email-based One-Time Password (OTP) if they do not have a biometric SIM card registered in their name.

The National Board of Revenue (NBR) introduced the system to address difficulties faced by expatriates who previously needed a Bangladeshi biometric SIM to receive OTPs.

Under the new arrangement, overseas taxpayers must apply by email, submitting passport and NID numbers, visa copy, photo, and email address. After verification, the OTP registration link will be sent to their email, enabling them to register and file e-returns online.

For the 2025–26 fiscal year, online return filing has been made mandatory for most individual taxpayers, with exemptions including expatriate Bangladeshis, senior citizens, persons with disabilities, foreign employees, and legal heirs of deceased taxpayers—though these groups may still file online voluntarily.

The NBR said e-return filing is simple and paperless, allowing instant acknowledgement receipts and income tax certificates. More than 850,000 taxpayers have already filed e-returns this tax year. The NBR urged all eligible taxpayers at home and abroad to submit their returns by November 30, 2026.

**Source:** <https://bdnews24.com/economy/8bf9c07c660f>



## IFRS 18 to be applied retrospectively

For reporters preparing accounts under IFRS Accounting Standards, IFRS 18 Presentation and Disclosure in Financial Statements is a new standard from the International Accounting Standards Board. It provides a new, structured format to the profit and loss account, including the presentation of two new sub-totals.

While IFRS 18 isn't effective until January 2027, entities are required to apply the standard retrospectively, meaning 2026 comparatives will need to be prepared under the new Standard.

“This is something that people really need to pay attention to because the devil is in the detail,” says Sally Baker, Head of Corporate Reporting Strategy at the ICAEW.

“At a surface level, it may not feel overly significant but we're finding that when companies start examining the changes in detail, they're realising it's much more involved than they had anticipated.”

**Source:** <https://www.icaew.com/insights/viewpoints-on-the-news/2026/jan-2026/2026-changes-to-accounting-standards#18>



## FBCCI's Integrated Strategy: Steering Bangladesh Through LDC Graduation

As Bangladesh prepares for its 2026 graduation from Least Developed Country (LDC) status, the economy stands at a critical turning point. Traditional industrial and trade approaches are no longer sufficient in a fast-changing global economy shaped by digitalization, automation, and data-driven decision-making. In this context, the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) is redefining its role—from a policy advocacy body to a direct driver of economic transformation.

Central to this shift is FBCCI's concept of “Integrated Thinking” and “Chamber 4.0,” which emphasizes technology-enabled trade, digital governance, and real-time data analytics. With key sectors like garments, pharmaceuticals, and leather facing growing global competition, FBCCI's strategy focuses on enhancing productivity, quality, and global supply-chain integration



## Transfer pricing

Transfer pricing is the determination of prices at which goods, services and intangible property are transacted between related parties.

The term ‘transfer price’ refers to the price at which a division/subsidiary of a company transact with each another division/subsidiary for goods or services. It takes place when two related companies, such as a parent company and a subsidiary, or two subsidiaries controlled by a common parent, engage in international trade with each other for goods and services.

When transactions are mispriced through showing of lower or higher prices than arm's length (actual market) prices, the transfer mispricing happens. To put it differently, when related entities of a multinational firm show artificially high prices for an imported product or service in an attempt to deflate profits to evade taxes, the practice is known as 'transfer mispricing'.

**Source:** [https://bangladeshcustoms.gov.bd/trade\\_info/transfer\\_pricing](https://bangladeshcustoms.gov.bd/trade_info/transfer_pricing)

through AI, automation, green manufacturing, and advanced trade platforms.

The initiative also prioritizes digital one-stop services, closer API-based coordination with government agencies, and evidence-based policy formulation to reduce compliance costs and attract private investment. Recognizing that technology alone is insufficient, FBCCI advocates strong industry-academia collaboration to address the skills gap and prepare a workforce capable of leveraging Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) technologies.

Beyond digital reforms, the strategy calls for deeper government-private sector collaboration, including regulatory sandboxes, inter-ministerial task forces, and institutional reforms within FBCCI itself. Collectively, these measures position FBCCI as a strategic engine for navigating post-LDC challenges and advancing Bangladesh toward a competitive, knowledge-based economy.

**Source:** <https://thebangladeshtoday.com/?p=31339>

## Cricket Fest 2026

The **AMC Royal Falcons** delivered an outstanding performance to secure a well-deserved victory in their recent match.

The match was played in a highly competitive spirit, with strong participation and support from fellow AMC teams, including the **AMC Legacy Legends** and the **AMC Captain's Crew**.

Throughout the game, the Falcons demonstrated excellent coordination, strategic discipline, and unwavering determination. Consistent contributions from both the batting and bowling units reflected the professionalism and teamwork that define AMC's sporting culture.

The presence and encouragement of the AMC Legacy Legends and the AMC Captain's Crew added to the competitive energy of the event, highlighting the unity, sportsmanship, and shared values across all AMC teams.

This victory reinforces the AMC commitment to excellence—both on and off the field—and sets a positive tone for the matches ahead.

Congratulations to **AMC Royal Falcons**, with best wishes to **AMC Legacy Legends** and **AMC Captain's Crew!** 🏏



AMC Cricket Fest 2026



AMC Royal Falcons achieved a remarkable win



### Members' unique ICAB ID for ICAB Information System (IIS)

PUBLICATION DATE: JANUARY 01, 2026

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB) has announced that it is moving towards full automation by developing an updated ICAB Information System (IIS). A mobile application is also scheduled to be launched early next year.

According to a circular issued on 30 December 2025, all ICAB members are required to register a unique ICAB ID, which will be used for all future interactions with the ICAB Information System. The ID will be formatted as preferredname.enrollmentnumber@icab.org.bd.

Members are requested to register their chosen ID through the ICAB website at <https://membersid.icab.org.bd/>

The circular was signed by Shubhashish Bose, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of ICAB.

*Source:* <https://www.icab.org.bd/news/members-unique-icab-id-for-icab-information-system-iis>

### BSEC, BMBA to work together for capital market development

The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) and the newly elected leadership of the Bangladesh Merchant Bankers Association (BMBA) have agreed to work together to strengthen the country's capital market.

At a meeting held at the BSEC office in Agargaon on Wednesday, both sides discussed bringing quality companies to the market and improving merchant banks' roles in issue management, underwriting, and portfolio management.

BSEC Chairman Khondoker Rashed Maqsood said updated IPO rules have opened opportunities to attract reputable firms and assured regulatory support to boost investor confidence. The meeting also stressed improving efficiency, ethics, and digital transparency of merchant banks to enhance market participation.

*Source:* <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/stock/bsec-bmba-to-work-together-for-capital-market-development>

