



3rd

STATE OF

# INVESTMENT CLIMATE BANGLADESH

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**Ashik Chowdhury, CFA**  
Executive Chairman  
BIDA & BEZA



Bangladesh Investment  
Development Authority



**1. Economic update**

**2. Progress report**

**3. In conversation with : [Sheikh Bashir Uddin](#)**

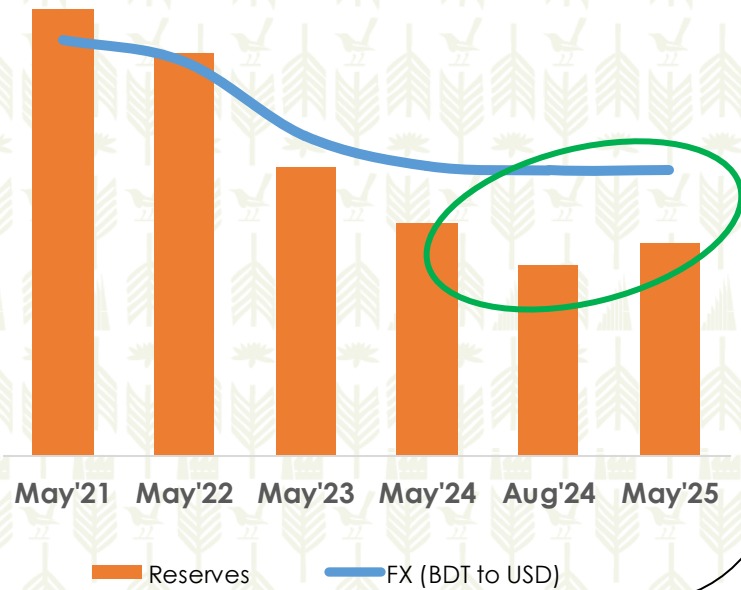
# Signs of economic turnaround

## Reserves & FX stabilizing

Since Jul'24

**\$3.7bn**

Arrears Repayment



Bangladesh Bank

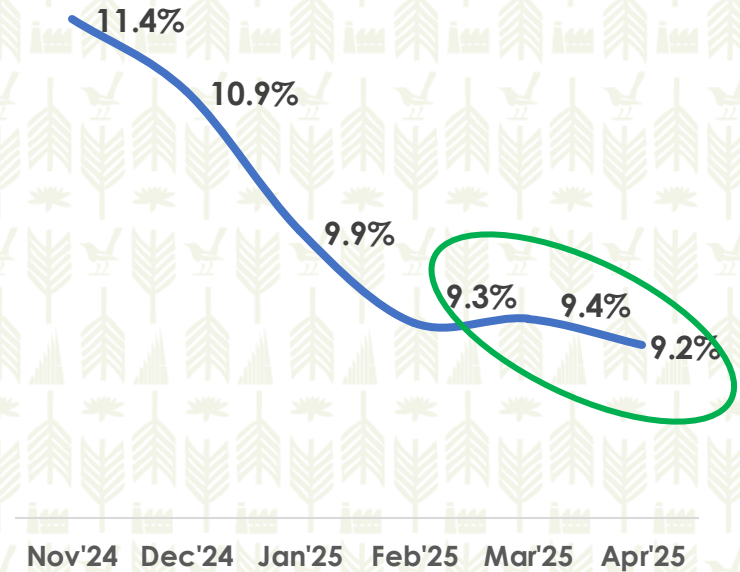
## External accounts improving

YTD 24-25 vs same period last year

	Exports	Remittance
Sep	+8%	+33%
Oct	+11%	+30%
Nov	+12%	+26%
Dec	+13%	+28%
Jan	+12%	+24%
Feb	+11%	+23%
Mar	+11%	+28%
<b>April</b>	<b>+11%</b>	<b>+28%</b>

Exports : EPB, Remittance : Bangladesh Bank

## Inflation easing up

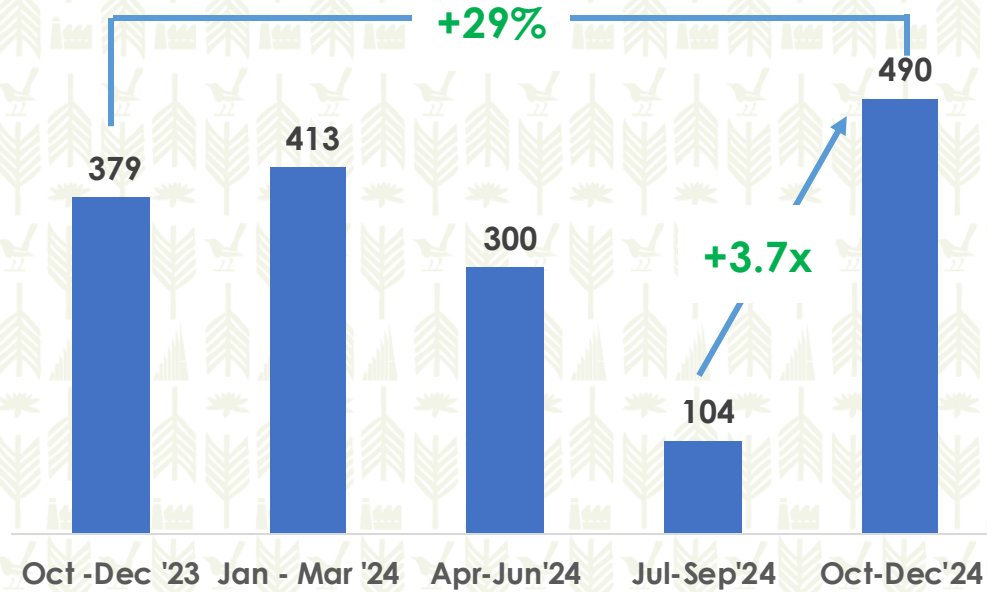


Bangladesh Bank

# Investment outlook

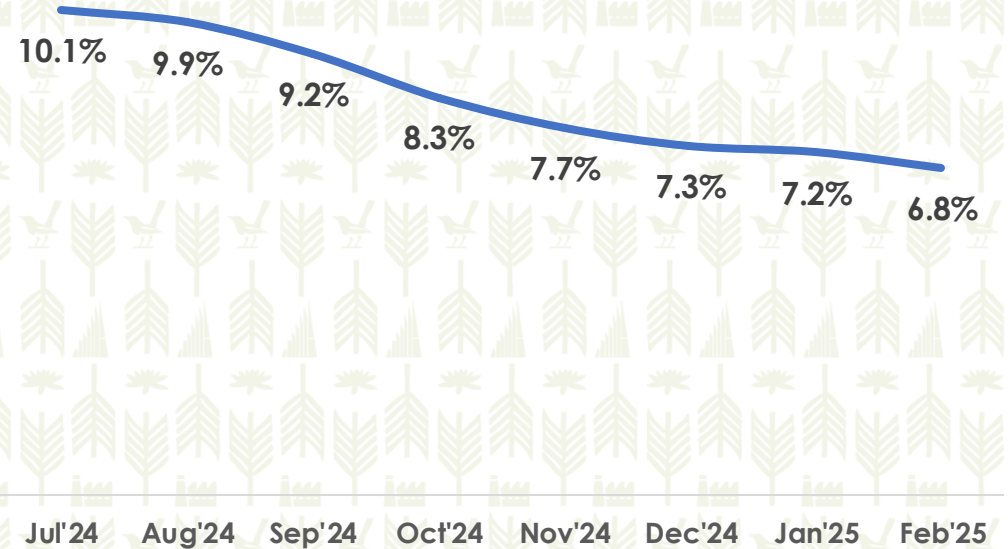
## FDI gradually rebuilding

■ Net FDI (USD Mn)



Bangladesh Bank

## Private sector credit growth - needs recovery



Bangladesh Bank



# Yet, some challenges remain



**Energy supply &  
pricing policy**



**New tariff implications  
& impact**



**Old practices at  
grassroot level**



**Speed of execution &  
implementation**



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# Progress report

## Q4, 2024

Understanding the landscape

Communication platform

GoB coordination committee

Project ambassador

Govt. service data for all

FDI heatmap

Right-sizing economic zones

Foreign currency loans rules

Institutional excellence: digitization

Institutional excellence: daycare

Institutional excellence: canteen

## Q1, 2025

Colocation of govt. agencies

Private sector advisory counsel

Work permit / visa related issues

Authorized economic operator

National single window

Port strategy

Tax rules: incubation & grandfathering

Repatriation rules

Onboarding/starter experience

Institutional excellence: training

Institutional excellence: research unit

## Q2, 2025

CRM model

Single platform

Licensing requirement review

FDI outreach

Investor summit

Optimizing govt. owned assets

Energy supply strategy

M&A transaction rules

Institutional excellence: Act review

Institutional excellence: integration



Completed



In progress



Behind Schedule



The diagram illustrates the 'Investor summit' as a central hub. A large green box at the top contains the text 'Investor summit'. Below this box, a network of lines connects it to several categories of stakeholders and topics, each represented by a light blue box. On the left side, the categories are: 'Understanding the land', 'Communication platform', 'GoB coordination committee', and 'Project implementation'. On the right side, the categories are: 'Single promoter', 'Licensing requirement review', 'Work permit / via related issues', and 'Authorized agent/contractor'. At the bottom of the diagram is a photograph of a modern interior space with large glass windows and a digital display in the foreground showing a bar chart and the text 'BANGLADESH'.



# "Bangladesh Investment Summit '25: Mission Accomplished!"



# Reflections from the summit...

- ✓ We need to do it consistently ; can't be one-off
- ✓ The case for Bangladesh landed well, we need to prioritize key reforms
- ✓ Foreign investors welcomed transparency and openness
- ✓ Great example of teamwork – within govt. agencies and with private sector

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Behind Schedule



# Upcoming initiatives

## Port strategy

### Free trade zone

- National committee formed
- Review global best practices and case studies
- Recommend appropriate legislative and operational changes



**Aim to execute phase-1  
within the year**

## FDI outreach

### FDI incentive scheme

- Incentive scheme for individuals promoting FDI
- Open for all Bangladeshi nationals – local and NRB
- In principle agreement complete ; SOP ongoing



**Democratize FDI  
promotion**

Govt. coordination committee	Work permit / visa related issues	Licensing requirement review
Project ambassador	Authorized economic operator	FDI outreach
Govt. service data for all	National single window	Investor summit
FDI heatmap	Port strategy	Optimizing govt. owned assets
Right-sizing economic zones	Tax rules: incubation & grandfathering	Energy supply strategy
Foreign currency loans rules	Repatriation rules	M&A transaction rules
		Ins. Multinational excellence: Act review
		Ins. Multinational excellence: Infr. regulation



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Behind Schedule

# Upcoming initiatives

## Simplify investor journey

### OSS & institutional integration

- Single landing platform & credentials for investors in Phase-1
- Relationship management team recruitment ongoing
- National committee formed on IPA integration
- Follow phased approach to minimize any operational disruption



**Enabling true one-stop investor services**





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