



BANGLADESH REGULATORY & BUSINESS UPDATES MARCH 2026

Key updates on Income Tax, VAT, Customs, Bangladesh Bank policies, BIDA, and other business regulations— keeping you informed on the evolving landscape.

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Key highlights & Information of March 2026

Area	Changes/Key Information	Impacted Stakeholder
Income Tax	The National Board of Revenue has mandated the use of ASYCUDA BI data as a primary source for verifying declared import values and advance income tax paid at the import stage during all types of income tax assessments.	Importers & Tax Officials
	Extended Deadline Expired on 31 March for Individual and HUF Tax Returns; New Assesses Allowed to File Returns for Assessment Year:2025-2026 until 30 June 2026 without Penalty under the Income Tax Act 2023.	Individual Taxpayers
	Tax Return Submission Deadline Extended to 15 May 2026 for assesses Classified as “Company” under Section 2(31) of the Income Tax Act 2023 (Excluding Individual and HUF) for Income Year Ended 30 June 2025 (Assessment Year 2025–2026) vide NBR Circulars.	Assesseees Classified as “Company” under Section 2(31) of the Income Tax Act 2023
	Withholding Tax Return Submission Deadline under Section 177 of the Income Tax Act 2023 for Quarter January–March 2026: Due on 25 April 2026 Along with Mandatory Submission of Salary Information (Schedule G / তফসিল-ছ.)	Government and autonomous or semi-autonomous bodies, assesses defined as company u/s 2 (31) of ITA 2023, associations of persons (AOP), firms, clinics, and diagnostic centers.
Value Added Tax	The National Board of Revenue has extended the deadline for submission of the March 2026 VAT return from 15 April 2026 to 23 April 2026.	All VAT Registered Entity.
Bangladesh Bank & Foreign Direct Investment	Bangladesh Bank has issued a new master circular to simplify and rationalize the transfer of shares and repatriation of sale proceeds in favor of non-residents in private and public limited companies not listed on the stock exchanges.	Non-resident Investors in private and public limited companies not listed on the stock exchange.

Comprehensive Review and References

Income Tax	
Reference	Summary
<p>Press Release by NBR, dated 05 March 2026</p>	<p>The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has instructed all income tax officers to use import data and advance income tax information from the ASYCUDA Business Intelligence (BI) Server in tax assessments to enhance accuracy and transparency.</p> <p>This allows verification of actual import values and advance income tax paid at the import stage, ensures effective cross checking of taxpayer information, helps prevent tax leakage, and enables faster, more transparent and accountable assessment and refund processes.</p> <p>For more info visit: Asycuda Data Access to Tax Officers.pdf</p>
<p>Due date for submission of return u/s Section 2 (80A)</p>	<p>The deadline for submission of income tax returns for individual taxpayers and Hindu Undivided Families (HUF) expired on 31 March following a 4-months extension granted by the National Board of Revenue (NBR) through various circulars.</p> <p>However, under section 2(80A) of the Income Tax Act 2023, new assesseees who have not previously filed an income tax return are allowed to submit their return for Assessment Year 2025-2026 up to 30 June 2026 without any penalty or interest.</p> <p>Furthermore, the NBR allows an additional time extension of up to 90 days upon application through the e-return system in accordance with section 2(80A) of the Income Tax Act 2023. However, as per section 76 of the Income Tax Act 2023, except for specified exemptions, in case of such extended filings, certain tax exemption will not be applicable.</p> <p>For more info visit: Press release eReturn Time Prayer.pdf</p>
<p>Section 2 (80A) & পত্র নম্বর- ০৮.০১.০০০০.০৩০.০১১.০০ ৩.১২/৫৩ তারিখঃ ১৩ এপ্রিল ২০২৬</p>	<p>The deadline for submission of income tax returns for company taxpayers defined u/s 2(31) of ITA 2023, including private and public limited companies, banks, insurance companies, NBFIs, NGOs, foundations, trade bodies, partnership firms, and branch, liaison or representative offices etc., is 8 months and 15 days from the end of the financial year, as stipulated under section 2(80A) of the Income Tax Act 2023.</p> <p>Accordingly, for entities with a financial year ending on 30 June 2025 corresponding to Assessment Year 2025-2026, the original deadline of</p>

	<p>15 March 2026 has been extended to 15 May 2026 through two separate circulars issued by the National Board of Revenue (NBR).</p> <p>https://nbr.gov.bd/uploads/public-notice/ইস্যু নং-৫৩.pdf</p>
Section 177 of Income Tax Act 2023	<p>As per Section 177 of the Income Tax Act 2023, Government and autonomous or semi-autonomous bodies, assesses defined as company u/s 2 (31) of ITA 2023, associations of persons (AOP), firms, clinics, and diagnostic centers are required to submit withholding tax returns on a quarterly basis within 25 days from the end of each quarter.</p> <p>For the period January 2026 to March 2026, the withholding tax return shall be submitted by 25 April 2026. Along with the quarterly return for this period, the prescribed additional statement, namely Schedule-G (তফসিল-ছ), containing information relating to submission of employees income tax returns, must also be furnished.</p> <p>Failure to submit the quarterly withholding tax return within the stipulated time shall attract a penalty of 10% of the last assessed tax or Tk. 5,000, whichever is higher. In addition, a further penalty of Tk. 1,000 per month shall be imposed for continued default.</p>

Value Added Tax (VAT)	
Reference	Summary
<p>স্মারক নম্বর- ০৮.০১.০০০০.০০০.০০৭৩.১১.০০০১.২৫.২ তারিখঃ ১৪ এপ্রিল ২০২৬</p>	<p>The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has extended the deadline for submitting online VAT returns for the tax period of March 2026 from 15 April to 23 April 2026.</p> <p>For more info: https://nbr.gov.bd/uploads/public-notice/08_01_0000_000_073_11_0001_25_2-2026-04-14-1776185361.pdf</p>

Foreign Direct Investment

Transfer of shares and repatriation of sale proceeds of shares in favor of non-resident in private/public limited companies not listed with stock exchanges.

Bangladesh Bank has issued a new master circular to simplify and rationalize the transfer of shares and repatriation of sale proceeds in favor of non-residents in private and public limited companies not listed on the stock exchanges.

Issued as [EID Circular No. 01 on 8 March 2026](#), the circular consolidates and updates earlier guidelines issued in 2018 and 2020, making the process more predictable, efficient and transparent for investors while maintaining regulatory safeguards.

The key reforms include greater autonomy for AD banks, higher transaction thresholds, simplified valuation and reporting procedures, faster processing timelines, and institutional mechanisms within banks to review valuation and repatriation requests

Comparison of 2018 and 2020 Circulars with 2026 Master Circular:

Policy Area	Previous Circulars (2018 & 2020)	Current Master Circular (2026)
Approval from Bangladesh Bank	Most share transfer and repatriation cases required prior approval from Bangladesh Bank, with limited delegation to AD banks in certain cases.	Expanded authority for Authorized Dealer (AD) banks to process many transactions without prior approval from Bangladesh Bank.
Threshold Without Independent Valuation	No independent valuation required for transactions up to BDT 10 million (earlier threshold was BDT 1 million in 2018).	No independent valuation required up to BDT 10 million, subject to joint declaration by buyer and seller.
Transactions Requiring Independent Valuation	AD banks could process transactions above BDT 10 million up to BDT 100 million with independent valuation and post	AD banks can process transactions up to BDT 1 billion with independent valuation using prescribed valuation methods.
Net Asset Value (NAV)-Based Transactions	NAV-based valuation accepted, but approvals often required from Bangladesh Bank depending on	AD banks may directly process transactions where the deal value does not exceed NAV based on audited financial statements.
Valuation Methods	Fair value generally determined using Net Asset Value (NAV), Market Value, or Discounted Cash Flow (DCF) methods.	Same valuation methods retained with clearer valuation guidelines and documentation requirements.
Processing Timeline	No standardized timeline for processing share transfers or repatriation.	Defined timelines introduced: share transfer within 45 days and repatriation within 5

Policy Area	Previous Circulars (2018 & 2020)	Current Master Circular (2026)
		working days by AD banks if documentation is complete.
Institutional Review Mechanism	No formal internal review structure required at AD bank level.	AD banks required to establish internal committees (led by senior management) to review valuation and repatriation cases.
Reporting to Bangladesh Bank	Applications submitted to Bangladesh Bank or reported post-facto depending on transaction size.	Post-facto reporting within 14 days for transactions processed by AD banks.