BANK OF GHANA NEWS BRIEF

News Summaries from Foreign and Local Media

Monday, 14 September 2026

US consumer prices accelerate in August, push Fed closer to rate hike

US consumer prices accelerated in Aug. while a key measure of underlying inflation posted its largest increase in 4 months, reinforcing expectations that the Fed will raise interest rates next week. The Labor Department's CPI report on Friday [11/09] followed strong readings in several components of the PPI released on Thursday [10/09] that feed into the Personal Consumption Expenditures price indexes. (www.reuters.com 12/09/26)

Fed's Warsh on collision course with Trump as rate hike looms

President Donald Trump and Fed Chair Kevin Warsh shook hands during a swearing-in ceremony in the East Room of the White House in Washington on May 22. President Donald Trump and Fed Chair Kevin Warsh shake hands during a swearing-in ceremony in the East Room of the White House in Washington on May 22. (www.bloomberg.com 14/09/26)

China's economy enters critical phase determining 2026 stimulus

China's economy is moving into a period that could determine the course of stimulus through the end of the year, as consumers remain gripped by malaise despite signs of stabilizing growth. As weather conditions improve and fresh funding starts flowing into projects, official data will show industrial production rebounded in Aug. (www.bloomberg.com 14/09/26)

Chinese shares close lower Monday

Chinese stocks closed lower on Monday, with the benchmark Shanghai Composite Index down 0.07% to 3,885.33 points. The Shenzhen Component Index closed 0.64% lower at 13,384.57 points. The combined turnover of stocks covered by these two indices stood at around CN¥1.63tr (about $240.78bn), down from CN¥1.97tr on the previous trading day. (www.xinhuanet.com 14/09/26)

Bank of England's dovish majority tested by Iran war pressures

Governor Andrew Bailey gave journalists an unusually frank message after July's interest rate decision: "Please do not leave this room thinking that the Bank of England (BoE) is edging toward a hike." He may struggle to be quite so emphatic at his central bank's next interest-rate decision on Thursday [17/09]. (www.bloomberg.com 14/09/26)

Japan industrial output falls 0.2% in July

Japan's industrial production declined for the first time in four months in July, revised from a slight increase estimated initially, final data from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry showed on Monday. Industrial production dropped 0.2% month-on-month in July, reversing a 1.9% growth in June. In the initial estimate, industrial output showed an expansion of 0.1%. (www.rttnews.com 14/09/26)

BOJ executive saw need for vigilance to 'non-linear' inflation spikes

Japan saw inflation spike due to rising import costs and currency shocks, suggesting such price reactions needed to factor into monetary policy considerations, a central bank official said. The remark, made at a Bank of Japan-hosted conference on monetary policy in May, highlighted the bank's alarm over persistent inflation risks. (www.reuters.com 14/09/26)

Russia keeps key interest rate unchanged

The Bank of Russia retained its interest rate after series of rate reductions, as Ukraine drone attacks on oil refineries pushed up inflationary pressures. The Board of Directors decided to hold the key rate at 14.00%, as widely expected. The bank started its massive monetary policy easing in June 2025, when the interest rate was 21.00%. The board noted that underlying price growth accelerated to 5-6% in annualized terms. (www.rttnews.com 11/09/26)

EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.3526	(1.3529)	1.3526	(1.3530)
+USD/EUR	1.1610	(1.1626)	1.1610	(1.1626)
*GHS/USD	11.4558	(11.4493)	11.4672	(11.4607)
*GHS/GBP	15.4951	(15.4897)	15.5106	(15.5064)
*GHS/EUR	13.3005	(13.3108)	13.3127	(13.3239)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 14/09/26 (Rates for 11/09/26 in brackets)
* BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 14/09/26 (Rates for 11/09/26 in brackets)

Malaysia unemployment rate remains stable at 3.0%

Malaysia's unemployment rate held steady for the third straight month in July, data from the Department of Statistics showed on Friday [11/09]. The jobless rate came in at 3.0% in July, the same as in the previous three months. In the corresponding month last year, the unemployment rate was also 3.0%. (www.rttnews.com 11/09/26)

Dollar firms, yen wobbles near 7-month high ahead of Fed, BOJ decisions

The dollar firmed on Monday, with the yen's recent rally sputtering near a seven-month high as investors pondered possible rate hikes from the Federal Reserve and Bank of Japan, while a climb in oil prices dampened risk sentiment. Global policymakers are grappling with erratic pricing pressures as the fighting in the Middle East worsens. (www.reuters.com 11/09/26)

Swedish inflation confirmed at 0.3%

Sweden's consumer price inflation increased slightly in August, as estimated initially, the latest data from Statistics Sweden showed on Monday. The CPI rose 0.3% year-over-year in August, following a 0.2% increase in July, which was the lowest inflation rate in three months. (www.rttnews.com 14/09/26)

Swiss producer and import prices rise 0.7%

Switzerland's producer and import prices increased for the first time in four months in August, the Federal Statistical Office reported Monday. The producer and import price index posted a monthly increase of 0.7% in August, reversing a 0.1% decrease in July. That was faster than the 0.1% rise expected by economists. (www.rttnews.com 14/09/26)

Finland inflation highest since March 2024

Finland's consumer price inflation accelerated slightly in August to the highest level in nearly two-and-a-half years, data from Statistics Finland showed on Monday. The consumer price index rose 2.2% year-over-year in August, following a 2.1% increase in July. Moreover, a similar inflation rate was last seen in March 2024. (www.rttnews.com 14/09/26)

Oil prices up over 2% following new strikes on Saudi, Strait of Hormuz

Oil prices rose more than 2% on Monday, after new strikes on Saudi Arabian energy and civilian infrastructure and Iranian attacks on ships in the Gulf compounded supply concerns following the closure of a key Saudi oil pipeline. Brent crude futures rose $2.11, or 2.02%, to $106.72 per barrel at 0630 GMT. (www.reuters.com 14/09/26)

Gold steady as hot US inflation bolsters chance of rate hike

Gold steadied after dropping for a third straight week as hotter-than-expected US inflation data raised the chance of the Fed hiking interest rates later this week. Bullion was trading near $4,350 an ounce. Underlying inflation rose in Aug as the core consumer price index, which excludes food and energy costs, increased 0.3% from a month earlier. (www.bloomberg.com 14/09/26)

South African president calls on BRICS to defend multilateralism, push for global governance reform

South African President Cyril Ramaphosa on Saturday called on BRICS countries to strengthen multilateralism and push for global governance reform, saying the voices of Africa and the Global South must be fully reflected in shaping the future international order. (www.xinhuanet.com 13/09/26)

Ghana: Banks wrote off GH¢1.23bn as bad debt in half-year-2026

Banks operating in Ghana wrote off GH¢1.23bn in the first half of 2026, according to the Domestic Money Banks' Income Statement. This was 38% year-on-increase over that of GH¢893.0m recorded in June 2025. (www.myjpyonline.com 14/09/26)

Ghana: MPC to cut policy rate to 12.5%

The Monetary Policy Committee may cut the policy rate by 150 basis points to 12.5% in September 2026. According to Databank Research, this would be consistent with the continued correction in inflation towards the Bank of Ghana's medium-term target band of 8% ± 2%. (www.myjpyonline.com 14/09/26)