BANK OF GHANA NEWS BRIEF
News Summaries from Foreign and Local Media

Wednesday, 28 October 2026

Nearly 90% of businesses are turning to tokenised money, DBS survey shows

Global adoption of tokenised money is moving faster than expected among businesses looking to improve liquidity management and access new markets, a top executive from Singapore bank DBS (DBSM.SI), opens new tab said. The remarks by Lim Soon Chong, the group head of global transaction services, follow a survey by the lender that showed that 88% of businesses have deployed or are piloting tokenised money use cases. (www.reuters.com 28/10/26)

Food and household brands warn of more price hikes as Iran war costs bite

The world's top consumer goods and food companies, from Coca-Cola and Procter & Gamble to Nestle and Reckitt, have warned of further price hikes next year to cover rising costs even as shoppers remain reluctant to splurge on groceries. (www.reuters.com 28/10/26)

Loans to Eurozone private sector log steady growth

Loans to the Euro area private sector increased at a steady pace in Sept. the European Central Bank said on Tuesday [27/10]. Adjusted loans to the private sector grew 4.3% year-on-year in Sept. unchanged from Aug. Within the non-financial private sector, annual growth in loans to households held steady at 3.1% and that to businesses also posted a stable growth of 4.2%. (www.rttnews.com 27/10/26)

European stability mechanism borrows €1bn on Pontes

The European Stability Mechanism (ESM) is issuing a €1bn ($1.1bn) digital bond on Pontes, the European Central Bank's distributed ledger technology (DLT) solution, in what is also the Deutsche Bundesbank's first transaction as a paying agent on the platform. the ESM currently has €73bn in loans to beneficiary member states disclosed on the asset side of its balance sheet. (www.centralbanking.com 28/10/26)

EMDE central banks forecast bigger changes in banknote demand

Most central banks (92.7%) forecast future banknote demand, the Currency Benchmarks 2026 show. Emerging market and developing economy (EMDE) currency managers are marginally likelier to forecast banknote demand (95.7%) than their advanced economy (AE) peers (88.9%) and tend to predict bigger changes. (www.centralbanking.com 27/10/26)

US consumer confidence up in October

US consumer confidence improved in Oct. amid an easing in gasoline prices, though frustration with the rising cost of living persisted. The Conference Board said its consumer confidence index increased to 91.7 this month from an upwardly revised 84.2 in Sept. (www.reuters.com 28/10/26)

BoE survey finds UK financial firms shifting to GenAI

Financial firms in the UK are increasingly shifting towards using generative artificial intelligence (GenAI), while remaining aware of the increased risks as the technology becomes more widespread, the latest survey from the Bank of England and the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) has found. The fourth survey of AI and machine learning in UK financial services, finds that 86% of respondent firms are now using AI, compared with 75% in 2024. (www.centralbanking.com 27/10/26)

French consumer sentiment weakest since 2013

French consumer confidence declined to its lowest level in more than 13 years in October amid bond selloffs and expanding protests, signalling pressure on spending, the statistical office INSEE showed Tuesday [27/10]. The consumer confidence index fell to 80 in Oct. from 85 in Sept. A similar lower score was last reported in June 2013. The reading was seen at 85. (www.rttnews.com 27/10/26)

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EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.3317	(1.3346)	1.3318	(1.3347)
+USD/EUR	1.1144	(1.1177)	1.1144	(1.1178)
*GHS/USD	11.6542	(11.6442)	11.6658	(11.6558)
*GHS/GBP	15.5199	(15.5403)	15.5366	(15.5570)
*GHS/EUR	12.9873	(13.0164)	13.0002	(13.0282)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 28/10/26 (Rates for 27/09/26 in brackets)
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Turkey trade gap narrows in September
Turkey's foreign trade deficit decreased in September from the previous year as exports grew much faster than imports, the Turkish Statistical Institute said on Wednesday. The trade deficit dropped to $5.16bn in Sept. from $6.96bn a year ago. In Sept. exports jumped by 15.3% annually, while imports rose only by 5.6%. (www.rttnews.com 28/10/26)

Malaysia PPI accelerates to 12.0%
Malaysia's producer price inflation quickened further in Sept. to the highest level in nearly five years, figures from the Department of Statistics showed today. Producer prices surged 12.0% year-on-year in Sept. faster than the 10.7% rise in Aug. Moreover, the increase was the fastest growth since Nov. 2021. (www.rttnews.com 28/10/26)

Australia under pressure to hike rates further as prices quicken
Hotter-than-expected Australian inflation and hawkish comments from Reserve Bank officials today have raised expectations of a fifth interest-rate hike this year when policymakers convene next week. Consumer prices accelerated last quarter and outpaced estimates, government data shows. (www.bloomberg.com 28/10/26)

Spain unemployment rate rises
Spain's unemployment rate rose to a double-digit level in Q3, the statistical office INE reported Tuesday [27/10]. The jobless rate came in at 10.18% in Q3, which was up from 9.87% in the preceding period. In the same period last year, the jobless rate was 10.45%. The unemployment rate was expected to rise marginally to 9.9%. (www.rttnews.com 27/10/26)

Brazil central bank says no significant risk to financial stability
Brazil's Central Bank said it sees no "significant risk" to the country's financial stability, noting that the financial system maintains adequate levels of capitalization and liquidity to withstand adverse scenarios. The bank's financial stability report for the first half of 2026 pointed to a slowdown in credit for households. (www.xinhuanet.com 26/10/26)

Oil up over $2 as Saudi Arabian refinery attack reignites supply risk concerns
Oil prices rose by more than $2 on Wednesday after an attack on a refinery in Saudi Arabia, the world's top crude exporter, renewed concerns about supply risks because of conflicts in the Middle East. Brent crude futures rose $2.02, or 1.8%, to $115.90 a barrel as of 0735 GMT. (www.reuters.com 28/10/26)

Gold moves higher ahead of Fed rate decision while U.S.-Iran standoff continues
Gold prices have edged higher on Tuesday, adding to gains from yesterday's session, as markets brace for the interest rate announcement by the US Fed tomorrow while the impasse in the US-Iran conflict continues. Front Month Comex Gold for Dec. delivery has advanced by $34.90 (or 0.86%) to $4,073.30 per troy ounce. (www.rttnews.com 27/10/26)

South African rand softens as oil prices rise, Fed in focus
The South African rand was under pressure in early trade on Wednesday as higher oil prices fuelled inflation concerns, while investors awaited the US Federal Reserve's policy decision later in the day for clues on the interest rate outlook. At 0652 GMT, the rand traded at 16.68 against the dollar, down 0.2% from its previous close. (www.reuters.com 28/10/26)

Nigeria's president seeks parliament approval for about $21.7bn borrowing
Nigerian President Bola Tinubu has asked the National Assembly to approve a supplementary external borrowing plan worth $20.52bn and €1.05bn ($1.17 billion) for 2026-2027 to fund infrastructure and other projects. (www.reuters.com 27/10/26)

Ghana: Government Securities Account for 99.30% of GH¢3.52bn GFIM Turnover
Trading activity on the Ghana Fixed Income Market strengthened sharply on Tuesday, October 27, 2026, as heavy demand for Treasury bills lifted total turnover to GH¢3.52bn from GH¢2.36bn in the previous session. The GH¢1.15bn session-on-session increase represented growth of 48.79%, (www.norvanreports.com 28/10/26)

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