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

Thursday, 19 November 2026

Fed policymakers concerned about financial system risks, minutes show

Financial stability risks tied to aggressive artificial intelligence investment and elevated asset prices are on the US central bank's radar, the minutes from the Federal Reserve's policy meeting last month showed on Wednesday. The concern was raised as part of a broad review of financial risks by Fed policymakers and central bank staff at the October 27-28 policy meeting. (www.reuters.com 18/11/26)

Surge in software patches likely behind recent tech outages; bank regulators on alert

Recent disruptions to the way people work, access bank accounts and travel are likely linked to corporate efforts to rapidly patch newly discovered software vulnerabilities in the AI age, experts said. US government officials have sought to reassure the public that the tech outages are not related, with US Secretary of State Marco Rubio. (www.reuters.com 19/11/26)

Global securities watchdog urges immediate action on quantum risks to finance

The global securities regulator urged the financial sector to take "immediate action" to address the risks posed by quantum computing, warning that blockchain systems might prove particularly exposed to emerging technology. Quantum computers can solve complex mathematical problems much faster than today's sophisticated computers. (www.reuters.com 19/11/26)

UK finance sector cyber incidents hit second-highest level in five years

Cyber incidents reported to Britain's financial watchdog in October hit their second-highest monthly level in five years, underscoring the growing threat facing the financial sector. The Financial Conduct Authority said the number of incidents reported in October was more than 50% higher than the previous peak recorded 18 months earlier. (www.reuters.com 19/11/26)

UK inflation rises to one-year high but markets trim rate hike bets

British inflation rose to a one-year high of 3.6% in October, official figures showed on Wednesday [18/11], but weaker outturns for some underlying measures led investors to trim bets on a Bank of England rate rise next month. The headline rate of inflation, which rose from 3.5% a month earlier, matched the median expectations of economists in a Reuters poll. (www.reuters.com 18/11/26)

BoE, in new statement on CPI data, says inflation to rise further

The Bank of England said on Wednesday that inflation was expected to rise further by the middle of next year due to cost pressures already in the pipeline, in a statement responding to Wednesday's official consumer prices data. Earlier the Office for National Statistics said British annual inflation rose to a one-year high of 3.6% in October from 3.5% in September. (www.reuters.com 18/11/26)

Bank of Japan governor says central bank should keep raising rates

Bank of Japan Governor Kazuo Ueda said on Wednesday the central bank should continue raising interest rates, while stressing the need to anchor underlying inflation around its 2% target. Speaking in parliament, Ueda said it was important to see underlying inflation anchored around 2% over time and conduct monetary policy appropriately to ensure that this could be achieved. (www.reuters.com 18/11/26)

Britain's long wait for 2% inflation tests public faith in Bank of England

Britain faces its longest run without inflation dipping below 2% since the early 1990s, BoE forecasts show, economists it risks eroding public faith that the BoE can get price growth back to target and keep it there. The only longer run in records dating back to 1950 began with sterling's devaluation. (www.reuters.com 19/11/26)

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EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.3165	(1.3205)	1.3166	(1.3206)
+USD/EUR	1.10975	(1.1004)	1.1976	(1.1004)
*GHS/USD	11.7741	(11.7441)	11.7859	(11.7559)
*GHS/GBP	15.5006	(15.5081)	15.5173	(15.5248)
*GHS/EUR	12.9236	(12.9234)	12.9365	(12.9352)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 19/11/26 (Rates for 18/11/26 in brackets)
* BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES:19/11/26 (Rates for 18/11/26 in brackets)

Migrants fuelled Spain's boom - now investors fear an anti-immigration government could stifle economy
Rapid immigration helped turn Spain into one of Europe's biggest economic success stories in recent years, but tighter controls on migrant numbers under a future right-wing government could undermine that performance. (www.reuters.com 19/11/26)

Dutch jobless rate remains stable at 4.0%
The Netherlands' unemployment rate held steady for the third straight month in October, data from the Central Bureau of Statistics showed on Thursday [19/11]. The seasonally adjusted ILO jobless rate stood at 4.0% in September, the same as in the previous three months. (www.rttnews.com 19/11/26)

Poland consumer confidence weakens in November
Poland's households became more pessimistic in November, and the confidence level weakened to the lowest in one-and-a-half years, survey data from Statistics Poland showed on Thursday [19/11]. The consumer sentiment index dropped to -14.2 in November from -14.0 in the previous month. Moreover, this was the weakest reading since May 2025. (www.rttnews.com 19/11/26)

Swiss trade surplus grows in October
Switzerland's foreign trade surplus increased in October as exports grew faster than imports, data from the Federal Customs Administration showed on Thursday [19/11]. The trade surplus climbed to CHF 3.2 billion in October from CHF 1.2 billion in September.
(www.rttnews.com 19/11/26)

UAE court orders freeze on crypto tokens stolen from Binance wallets
An Abu Dhabi court has ordered several major cryptocurrency companies to freeze digital assets worth billions of dollars as part of efforts to recover some of the $6.3 billion in tokens stolen from wallets operated by Binance, according to court documents seen by Reuters. The Abu Dhabi Global Market Court decision seeks to prevent the stolen crypto from being moved (www.reuters.com 18/11/26)

Oil prices rise as Middle East shipping attacks counter supply surplus outlook
Oil prices edged up on Thursday [19/11] following losses in the prior session as worries about Middle East supplies amid attacks on shipping in the Strait of Hormuz pushed up against expectations for a market surplus. Brent crude futures were trading up 24 cents, or 0.26%, at $92.19 a barrel at 0953 GMT.
(www.reuters.com 18/11/26)

Gold edges up from 14-month low as markets assess Fed rate outlook
Gold prices ticked up on Thursday, after hitting a more-than-one-year low earlier in the session amid growing US interest rate hike bets, while investors looked to Federal Reserve commentary for fresh signals on monetary policy. (www.reuters.com 19/11/26)

South Africa's Investec reports 8.4% rise in half-year earnings
Investec reported an 8.4% rise in half-year headline earnings on Thursday, supported by revenue growth as it increased its average lending book and client base as the South African bank expands its business among private banking customers and mid-sized corporates. (www.reuters.com 19/11/26)

IMF reaches agreement with Egypt to unlock $2.3 billion in funds
The International Monetary Fund said on Wednesday that it had reached an agreement with Egypt to unlock a disbursement of about $2.3 billion in funds, subject to approval by the IMF's board, as the country nears the end of its $8 billion loan programme.
(www.reuters.com 19/11/26)

Why Bank of Ghana's 11.00% Realignment Changes the Rules of Monetary Policy
Ghana's central bank has undertaken one of its most consequential monetary policy adjustments of 2026, but the headline movement in its benchmark interest rate tells only part of the story. The BoG's decision to realign its (MPR) from 14.00% to 11.00% has the appearance of a substantial 300-basis-point reduction. (www.norvanreports.com 19/11/26)

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