

Budget revision likely for higher spending

Staff Correspondent  06 October, 2025, 01:49

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The interim government is likely to revise the national budget for the 2025-26 financial year in December to accommodate a possible increase in salaries of government officials and a rise in perks for teachers under the monthly payment order.

The July-June national budget is usually reviewed in March-April of a financial year.

Finance Division officials said they would have to revise the current national budget before the national election, slated for February 2026, so that the elected government faced no major problems in managing the budget.

The interim government is implementing the budget worth Tk 7.9 lakh crore with the non-development expenditure accounting for 67.7 per cent and the development expenditure 32.2 per cent.

Officials said that the Finance Division under the finance ministry would revise the budget early this year so that allocations for a possible new pay scale and increased salaries and allowances for MPO-listed teachers could be accommodated in the budget.

In July, the National Pay Commission was formed to suggest the government on pay hikes for the government officials and employees in six months.

Besides, the inclusion of 1,519 madrasahs under the MPO scheme in the FY26 budget by the interim government and the ongoing adjustments of MPO teachers' salaries and allowances would lead to a rise in the non-development expenditure, the officials said.

In the FY26 budget, about Tk 84,684 crore has been put aside to pay salaries and allowances to the government officials and employees.

Finance ministry officials expected a major change regarding allocations for salary and allowance in the revised budget.

To meet the additional spending, the Finance Division has already been instructed to find out allocations for less important areas in the budget so that the budget deficit can be kept at 3.6 per cent.

The division has projected borrowing of Tk 96,000 crore from external sources and Tk 1.25 lakh crore from domestic sources to meet the deficit financing.

The overall revenue income has been projected at Tk 5.64 lakh crore.