



ECONOMY

Inflation rate for February was slightly higher at 9.2 per cent: The year on year inflation rate measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for February 2019 was 9.2 percent, up by 0.2 percent point over the 9.0 percent recorded in January 2019 ([GNA](#)).

Ghana Receives 40m Euro Grant: The Government has signed a 40 million euro facility with the European Union (EU) towards the promotion of investments and job creation in the country ([Peacefmonline](#)).

SECTORAL

Tax expert urges Ghana to effectively implement transfer pricing regulations: A tax expert has urged Ghana to ensure that the existing regulations and laws on transfer pricing were effectively implemented. This would be in line with government's role of creating an enabling environment for businesses, attract more foreign direct investors coming in, and achieve the objective of making Ghana an industrial hub for West Africa and Africa in general ([GNA](#)).

Customs urged to reduce examination of containers to 10 per cent: Government has tasked the Customs Division of the Ghana Revenue Authority to reduce physical examination of containers at the ports from the current 90 percent to 10 percent to make the country's business environment competitive ([GNA](#)).

Paperless system reduces business cost from GH¢1280 to GH¢320: Government has averred that the total cost of doing business at the ports has reduced from GH¢1,280 to GH¢320 after the implementation of the Paperless Clearing System which represents about 75 percent cost reduction ([Daily Guide](#)).

GRIDCo advises PDS to shed load: The Power Distribution Service (PDS) has been advised to shed load at various Bulk Supply Points to ensure system stability in Ghana's power distribution. This is due to the on-going construction of the road interchange at the ACP Junction, Pokuase ([Graphic](#)).

Regulatory bodies to implement existing regulations to protect consumers: The public is calling on regulatory bodies to be proactive and implement already-existing regulations to protect the interests of consumers against bad services and inferior goods in the absence of a functioning Consumer Protection Law ([B&FT](#)).

Business registration fee too low: Leadership of Parliament has raised concerns about the pegging of registration fees of companies at GH¢120 in the new Companies Bill before Parliament. The leader maintained that paying less than \$50 was too low, particularly for multinational companies that would be registered as limited liability companies or companies limited by guarantee ([Graphic](#)).

GEXIM Bank to disburse GH¢15m to 10 enterprises under CEP: The Ghana Export-Import Bank (Exim Bank) is to disburse about GH¢15million to 10 medium enterprises under the Cassava Enterprise Project (CEP) with the aim of helping farmers cultivate about 500 acres of cassava ([B&FT](#)).

Ghana, Ivory Coast protest ISO cocoa standards: Ghana and Ivory Coast have registered their displeasure against attempts by some major stakeholders in the global cocoa industry to impose certain standards on farmers in West Africa which will render them jobless if implemented finally ([Daily Guide](#)).

POLICY

Govt announces 10 measures to make Ghana an easier place to do business: Government has announced 10 measures introduced over the past nine months in an effort to improve the country's business environment. The reforms cover starting a business, obtaining construction permits, getting electricity, trading across borders, and resolving insolvency. Government believes that these reforms will unleash the Ghanaian entrepreneurial spirit and open our doors to the world ([Graphic](#)).

Cabinet approves local content policy for downstream petroleum industry: The government has approved local content policy for downstream petroleum industry. Government has maintained that the policy will ensure Ghanaian driven and ownership of petroleum downstream industry, capable of attracting increased local value-added investments and enhanced job opportunities ([Graphic](#)).

MARKETS

Interest Rates

Inflation Rate (Feb. 2019): **9.20%**
BoG Policy Rate (Jan, 2019): **16.0%**

Treasury Securities Rates

91-Day: **14.7071%**
182-Day: **15.1474%**
364 Day: **19.7500%**
Source: [BoG 11/15.02.2019](#)

Foreign Exchange Rates

	Buy	Sell
Pound Sterling (£):	GH¢6.9034/	GH¢6.9124
Dollar (US\$)	GH¢5.2374/	GH¢5.2426
Euro (€)	GH¢5.9216/	GH¢5.9262

Source: [BoG 14-03-19](#)

Mutual Funds – Yields

(MM & FIF 1)

TTL Income Haven:	+19.02% (03.03.19)
Galaxy Mfund:	+9.39% (31.01.19)
EDC Fixed Income:	+20.83% (07.03.19)
First Fund:	+16.34% (08.03.19)
Republic Unit:	+10.74% (12.03.19)
SEM MoneyPlus:	+14.92% (25.02.19)

Source: [Doobia](#)

TRADE & INVESTMENT

Gov't embarks on comprehensive programme to support shea industry: Government has embarked on comprehensive programme to support the promotion of Made in Ghana shea products. The sector Minister has called on stakeholders in the shea industry to work towards transforming the sector into a resilient, lucrative, socially equitable and sustainable commodity. In support, the U.S. government, through the Agency for International Development (USAID) has inaugurated a shea butter processing facility and warehouse to promote women's economic empowerment through partnerships that connect Ghanaian women producers with U.S. buyers ([B&FT](#) & [Myjoyonline](#)).

INTERNATIONAL

China foreign investment law: Bill aims to ease global concerns: China has passed a new foreign investment law in a move widely seen as an effort to facilitate US trade talks. The measure is seen as a possible olive branch to the US as negotiators from both countries work to resolve their bruising trade dispute. But some argue it does not fully address the concerns foreign firms have about doing business in China ([BBC](#)).

S&P affirms Ghana's rating at 'B/B' with a stable outlook: Standards and Poor's (S&P) Global has maintained its 'B/B' long- and short-term foreign and local sovereign credit ratings on Ghana and also assigned a stable outlook in a statement issued on March 2019 due to what it described as fairly strong growth prospects ([Ghanaweb](#)).