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Sunday 08 November 2026

Contact: Tel: 44557 857 or email: adv@pen.com.qa

## CHANGE OF NAME

I, Zafar Khan Mashin Khan
Holder of Pakistan Passport No.YW1796583
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hereby change my name to

**JASAM KHAN MASHIN KHAN**

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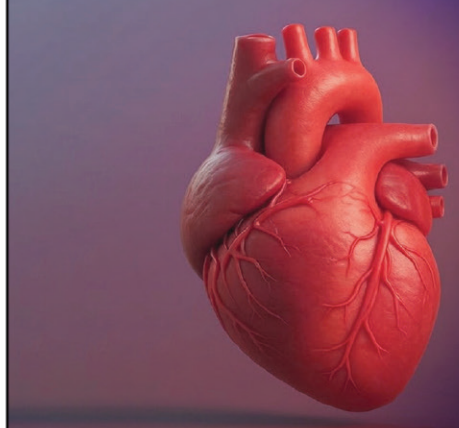
I, Rubina Zaman
روبينا زمان
Holder of UK Passport No. 537037290
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# US economy added 165,000 jobs in October

**WASHINGTON:** The US economy added 165,000 jobs in October, shattering expectations and suggesting strength in the labor market, especially for white-collar, health care and manufacturing workers.

The unemployment rate ticked down to 4.1 percent, extending low levels that have defined the labor market over the past year, according to a Labor Department report released Friday.

The labor market was stronger than originally reported in August and September, the report showed, with job gains revised up by 84,000 positions for those months.

Wage growth continued to be outpaced by inflation, in bad news for households.

The rosy job figures were unexpected, as soaring prices fueled by the Iran war, tariffs and immigration enforcement have dampened employers' hiring plans this year. But spending by wealthier households flush with stock market gains has been propping up the economy.



The unemployment rate ticked down to 4.1 percent.

"Today's jobs report is a strong rebuttal to fears that the economy is heading into a meaningful slowdown," wrote Seema Shah, chief global strategist at Principal Asset Management, in an analyst note. She added, "Job creation remains broad-based, pointing to an economy that is still absorbing labor comfortably rather than one beginning to buckle under tighter financial conditions."

The White House, reeling from Tuesday's midterm Republican wipeout, touted the job gains as a sign of a vigorous labor market. On CNBC, White House National Economic Council Director Kevin Hassett called jobs number "through the roof."

*Jobs gains were spread across health care, professional and business services, manufacturing, and transportation and warehousing.*

It's "as good of a job market as you're likely to see," Hassett said.

But strong job gains appeared to have little impact on the stock market, which opened slightly higher Friday morning, after tumbling Thursday in reaction to concerns about whether country's rapid AI build-out would continue with Democrats in power.

Jobs gains were spread across health care, professional and business services, manufacturing, and transportation and warehousing.

Professional and business services added 70,000 jobs, raising hopes of new growth in white-collar jobs. The sector averaged monthly job gains of around 15,000 over the prior 12 months.

The job growth is welcome news for recent college graduates who have struggled to find work this year amid signs that artificial intelligence is zapping entry-level jobs.

The transportation and warehousing sector added 25,000 jobs, mostly delivery workers. Retailers and logistics firms are preparing for a robust holiday shopping season, with Amazon recently announcing the hiring of 300,000 workers for the season.

And manufacturing added jobs for the fifth straight month, including in metal production, which could be one of a few areas benefiting from the president's tariffs. Manufacturing employers have added 101,000 jobs since hitting a recent low in December 2025.

Leisure and hospitality, and the federal government shed jobs. Despite some pockets of job growth, many employers are still reluctant to bring on new workers. This year's average monthly gains are much smaller than the average monthly jobs numbers added just a few years ago. During the first 10 months of 2026, job growth has averaged 86,000 positions per month, compared to the average monthly gain of 210,000 in 2023.

Indeed, there are underlying signs that many Americans are struggling in their job searches. The average duration of unemployment hit more than 27 weeks in October, the highest level since late 2021. Nearly 2 million Americans have been unemployed for more than half a year, the data showed, as new job opportunities are scarce in many sectors, especially in entry-level white-collar positions. — ***THE WASHINGTON POST***

## Vietnam's growth continues but will depend on stronger domestic economy's integration

FROM PAGE 8

Over the same period, foreign-invested firms accounted for 80.7% or $350.41bn of the total $434.30bn exports.

On the other hand, foreign firms also imported $335.55bn of goods into Vietnam, including machinery for new plants.

Second, a new wave of foreign investment is shifting towards higher value-added activities, offering greater potential for spillovers. Investment is increasingly directed to semiconductors, artificial intelligence (AI), data centres, as well as research and development (R&D).

Planned projects include a $1bn advanced chip-packaging plant and a $2.1bn AI data centre in Ho Chi Minh City.

Third, the domestic economy is gaining momentum, acting as a balancing factor for growth. In the first nine months of the year, final consumption grew 8.5%, while capital formation rose 17.8%. Public investment is playing a central role, as the government accelerates hundreds of large-scale infrastructure projects worth an estimated $200bn, with state budget investment up 19% in the first nine months. Better infrastructure lowers logistics costs and connects domestic firms to markets.

*The export boom remains largely captured by foreign firms, while the new wave of technology investment and stronger domestic demand offer an opportunity to deepen local linkages.*

Business dynamism is also improving, with close to 111,700 new firms registered in the first half, up 22.5%. Unlike exports, these domestic engines are less exposed to US trade measures, partly offsetting the vulnerabilities of the foreign-led sector.

All in all, Vietnam's growth is set to continue, but its quality will depend on the domestic economy. The export boom remains largely captured by foreign firms, while the new wave of technology investment and stronger domestic demand offer an opportunity to deepen local linkages.

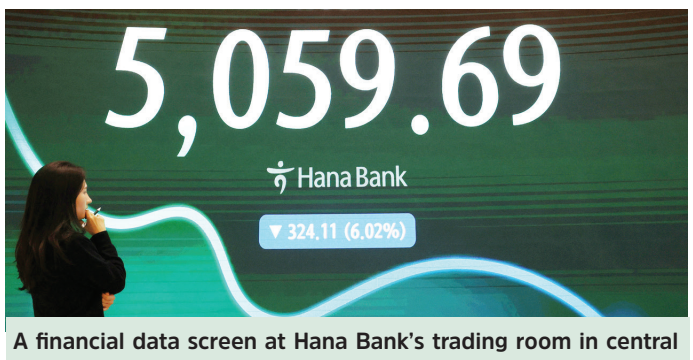
## Seoul stocks plunges 6% amid brutal AI sell-off

**SEOUL:** Fears of tighter regulation on AI data center investments after the US midterm elections have rattled markets, sending Republic of Korea's benchmark Kospi below the 5,000 mark at one point during intraday trading Friday.

According to the Korea Exchange, the index closed at 5,059.69, down 6.02 percent from the previous session.

It plunged 8.78 percent to an intraday low of 4,911.28 shortly after the opening bell, triggering a circuit breaker and a sell-sidecar in quick succession before recovering slightly.

It was the first time the Kospi had fallen below the 5,000 mark during intraday trading since Feb. 6.




A financial data screen at Hana Bank's trading room in central Seoul shows the Kospi closing at 5,059.69, down 6.02 percent.

With concerns about the sustainability of AI-driven growth weighing on the market, heavyweight chip stocks came under heavy selling pressure.

Samsung Electronics closed down 6.35 percent at 188,700 won ($139), while SK hynix plunged 10.44 percent to 1.132 million won. Samsung Electronics fell as low as 179,200 won during intraday trading, marking the first time its shares had slipped into the 170,000-won range since April 2. The stock has lost roughly half its value from the year's peak of 374,500 won.

SK hynix also fell to as low as 1.089 million won during the session, breaking below the 1.1 million-won mark. It was the first time the stock had fallen back into the 1 million-won range since April 14. Its intraday low was roughly one-third of this year's peak of 2.987 million won.

The overnight sell-off on Wall Street, where AI and semiconductor stocks tumbled amid heavy selling, sent shockwaves through global technology stocks and spilled over into the Republic of Korea's market.

The Kospi failed to escape the fallout despite having already plunged 5.28 percent a day earlier, as concerns over tighter regulations on AI data center construction in the US following the midterms had already been priced into the market. — ***THE KOREA HERALD***

## German industrial output up 0.7% in September

**BERLIN:** German industrial production rose slightly in September, driven by a sharp rebound in car manufacturing, but economists warned Friday that output remained at low levels and the recovery was still fragile.

Production grew 0.7 percent month-on-month, following a revised 1-percent increase in August, according to the Federal Statistical Office (Destatis).

The rise was driven mainly by a 17.1-percent surge in automotive production, which had fallen 9.2 percent in July and a further 5.4 percent in August, partly due to factory holidays and production adjustments.

Carsten Brzeski, global head of macro at ING Research, said the rebound should not be mistaken for a sustained improvement.

"September's strength is therefore better seen as a post-holiday bounce rather than evidence of a lasting improvement in German industry," he said. — ***XINHUA***

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