



BIDA NEWSLETTER

A Monthly Publication of Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA)

December 2018 ■ Issue No. 01



“ Bangladesh no longer asks for aid, rather seeks investment.”

- Sheikh Hasina
Prime Minister of Bangladesh



CONTENT

- ❑ Message of Executive Chairman
- ❑ First Meeting of the Governing Board of BIDA
- ❑ BIDA Organogram
- ❑ Investment Promotion Activities
- ❑ One Stop Service
- ❑ BIDA Photo Album
- ❑ BIDA Activities
- ❑ Investment Statistics

Message : Executive Chairman

It indeed is a pleasure to see the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) publishing the BIDA newsletter. This is an effort from BIDA to enhance interaction with people, other government agencies as well as the investors at home and abroad. We plan to make the newsletter a regular publication of BIDA featuring events, news as well as useful analytical materials on investment scenario of Bangladesh.

The present government is working relentlessly to materialize “Golden Bangladesh”, the dream of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. All our efforts are geared to achieve our development aspirations and make this dream a reality. Against this backdrop, we are working to develop a coalition of all the stakeholders, government

agencies, private sector and non-government actors around “Promotion and Expansion of Investment” which is one of the “10 Special Initiatives” of the Hon’ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. We have set our goal to contribute in building a society based on knowledge, technology, innovation and entrepreneurship where employment will be guaranteed for everyone with opportunities for decent work. Establishment of BIDA by merging former Board of Investment (BOI) and Privatization Commission (PC) is one of the farsighted initiatives of the Government to fulfill this goal.

Transition to BIDA by merging BOI and PC has been a formidable task. Beside carrying out conventional responsibilities for providing a host of investor services, we are gradually developing BIDA as a world class Investment Promotion Agency (IPA) especially by working proactively on “Ease of Doing Business” (EoDB), “One Stop Service” and Business Competitiveness Index. Now that we got our new organogram approved, we are preparing to equip this organization with quality human and other resources.

Bangladesh has consistently been one of the high achievers among the emerging economies for the last two decades. This journey should continue uninterrupted and it should be fast paced. BIDA will play an appropriate role in achieving the 2030 agenda for SDGs and making Bangladesh knowledge and technology based equitable, happy, prosperous and developed country by 2041.

I believe the BIDA Newsletter will be a good source of information for potential investors at home and abroad and portray the abilities of BIDA and outcomes of all its endeavors. I congratulate the editing team of the newsletter for their good work and wish them to excel in all their activities in the future.

Kazi M. Aminul Islam
Executive Chairman

BIDA NEWSLETTER

December 2018 • Issue No. 01

A Monthly Publication of Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA)



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Chairman of the Governing Board, presiding over the first meeting of the Governing Board of BIDA on November 9, 2016 at PMO.

photo-Press Information Department

Editor's note

Dear reader,

This is the inaugural issue of BIDA newsletter. Through this, we would like to keep in touch with our clientele group as well as the prospective investors at home and abroad.

This Edition covers BIDA's some of the milestone activities including information and data on investment scenario of the country.

I take this opportunity to thank all those who contributed to this issue including those who provided required information. I am thankful to Executive Chairman for his continuous support and inspiration. The contribution of the publication committee members was truly appreciable.

You are welcome to make suggestions to improve this newsletter in any manner. Please provide feedback and relevant information with photographs for inclusion in the upcoming issues.

Moinul Islam

Executive Member (Additional Secretary)

First Meeting of the Governing Board of BIDA

The first meeting of the Governing Board of BIDA was held on November 9, 2016. The Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Chairman of the Governing Board, presided over the meeting. Finance Minister Abul Maal Abdul Muhith, Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury, Commerce Minister Tofail Ahmed, Industry Minister Amir Hossain Amu were present among others. The Executive Chairman of BIDA Kazi M. Aminul Islam presented a number of policy proposals regarding BIDA's administration and operations before the Board. Many important decisions were taken at the meeting. Some of the decisions are as follows:

- Approval of BIDA Governing Board's Rules of Procedures, 2016.
- BIDA instructed to prepare Investment Policy for Bangladeshi investment abroad.
- Take necessary steps to attract domestic and foreign investment to further increase the existing trend of investment. It was noted that activities of BIDA must be strengthened to create an investment-friendly environment.
- Proposed organizational structure of BIDA with 479 posts was approved in principle.
- A committee to start work on the 'Ease of Doing Business' so that at the end of the 7th Five-Year Plan period, Bangladesh's ranking will climb up to double digit level.
- Proposal for formation of the 'One Stop Service Confirmation Committee', as per section 16 (2) of the BIDA Act, 2016, was approved.
- Take necessary steps for setting up an effective communication platform for the entrepreneurs.

BIDA Organogram

The Government has recently approved an organogram for BIDA. The organogram contains 140 posts for officers of grade 1-9 who will carry out the BIDA responsibilities. The Prime Minister's Office (PMO) issued the Government Order (GO) in this regard on August 9, 2018. Former Employees of the Board of Investment (BOI) and Privatization Commission (PC) have been accommodated within the newly created organogram. The authority is formulating the relevant rules and regulations and detailing the duties and responsibilities for the newly created positions. To this end, due importance is being given to the roles to be played by each employee in keeping with the organizational goal. It may be noted that the BIDA will focus its attention on a number of core areas including investment promotion and facilitation, providing aftercare and offering policy advocacy for the investors. There will be dedicated officials for developing country image and offering One Stop Service as well.

Investment Promotion Activities

BIDA-DBCCI Investment and Trade Delegation

April 18- 25, 2018

to Belgium and The Netherlands

Executive Chairman Kazi M. Aminul Islam gave a keynote speech on "Bangladesh a Success Story..." at the investment and business seminar "Bangladesh Emerging Big- A Beacon of Opportunities" highlighting Bangladesh's vibrant economy in terms of sustained economic growth, political as well as macroeconomic stability with rising per capita income and stable inflation, large domestic market with competitive young workforce, pro-business government, investment in human capital, improvement of business climate, major infrastructure projects, liberal investment regimes with attractive FDI incentives, etc. He stressed that foreign investors in Bangladesh can have access to a market of 3 billion people as Bangladesh is the gateway of South and Southeast Asia. He gave an overview of sector wise growth in Bangladesh especially in pharmaceuticals, shipbuilding, electronics, agro-processing, leather and leather goods etc. He invited the Dutch investors to explore boundless investment opportunities in Bangladesh for mutual benefits. He delivered this speech in the seminar held on 23rd April in The Hague.

Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (BEZA), Bangladesh Hi-Tech Park Authority (BHTPA), and Public Private Partnership Authority (PPPA) collaborated

with the program. Among others Embassy of Netherlands in Dhaka, Bangladesh Embassy in the Netherlands, Bangladesh Embassy in Belgium, Netherlands Enterprise Agency and European Institute of Asian Studies (EIAS) provided necessary support for successful arrangement of the meetings and the seminar. Representatives of Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Shipping, Bangladesh Hi-Tech Park Authority, Ministry of Commerce, Payra Port Authority and Ministry of Foreign Affairs also participated at the seminar.

The objective of this Trade Mission were to explore and promote Bangladeshi products and services in Europe and vice versa, attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) from Europe for the potential sectors in Bangladesh, and develop bi-lateral trade and cultural relationship among the countries.



Kazi M. Aminul Islam was leading the trade mission "BIDA-DBCCI Investment and Trade Delegation-2018" in Belgium and the Netherlands. It was jointly organized by BIDA and DBCCI during 18-25 April 2018.



BIDA-DBCCI Trade and Investment Delegation also held a seminar and B2B meetings at EIAS on April 20, 2018. Dr. Alexander Spachis, Member of the Advisory Board, EIAS chaired the seminar "Bangladesh -New Investment Potentials". In his keynote speech, Kazi Aminul Islam highlighted the investment opportunities in Bangladesh. Bangladeshi businessmen and their Belgian counterparts took part in B2B meetings.

Harvard

Bangladesh Rising Conference 2018 was held on May 12, 2018 at the University's campus in Boston. The largest US conference on Bangladesh's development was co-hosted by Boston-based International Sustainable Development Institute (ISDI) and the Centre for International Development at Harvard Kennedy School and Harvard Mittal South Asia Institute. The conference brought together participants from Bangladesh and the US for exchange of ideas, discussion and debate on various strategies for development, issues related to trade and investment and growth and development of Bangladesh.

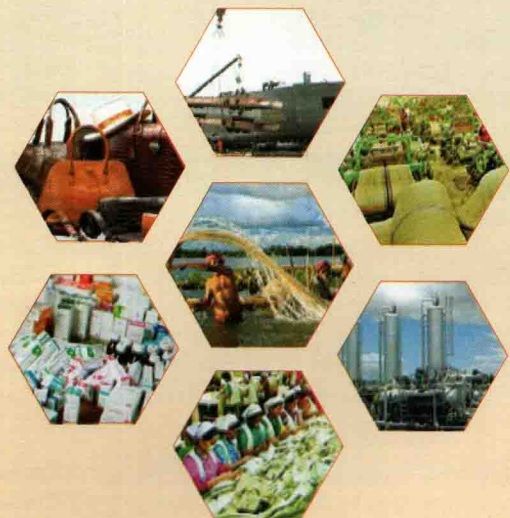
Policymakers and leaders from various sectors participated in the six panel discussions. Dr. Mashiur Rahman, Economic Affairs Adviser to the Prime Minister spoke on Bangladesh's management of deficit financing and eloquently defended it. Abul Kalam Azad, SDG chief coordinator at the Prime Minister's Office, delivered a keynote speech on FDI and highlighted Bangladesh's recent achievement. Kazi M Aminul Islam, Executive Chairman of BIDA, Khalid Quadir, Cofounder and chief executive officer of Brummer & Partners Bangladesh and Sharif Zahir, Managing Director of Ananta Group, were part of the panel. State Minister for Power, Energy, and Mineral Resources Nasrul Hamid delivered his speech on speeding up power production. Microsoft Managing Director Sonia Bashir Kabir, Square Pharmaceuticals Head of Business Development and Strategy Anika Chowdhury and Green Delta Insurance Managing Director Farzana Chowdhury spoke at the session on women's leadership in business. Anika Chowdhury spoke on the issues relating to business leadership opportunities for women and their inspiring roles and long-term success. The final session was on wider out reach through information and communication technology. The panelists were Policy Adviser to the a2i (Access to Information) Programme Anir Chowdhury, Alliance for Affordable Internet Executive Director Sonia N Jorge, Brown University Associate Professor Ruhul Abid and Appnometry Managing Director Mashruf Habib. The other speakers were Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority Chairman Paban Chowdhury, Meghna Group Chairman Mostafa Kamal, ASM Mainuddin Monem, Managing Director of Abdul Monem Economic Zone and bdnews24.com Editor-in-Chief Toufique Imrose Khalidi.

Tokyo, Osaka

A high-level delegation headed by Kazi M. Aminul Islam, Executive Chairman of BIDA visited Japan during May 14-18, 2018. During this visit Bangladesh Investment Seminars were held in Osaka on 15th of May and in Tokyo on 17th of May. Representatives of public and private sectors spoke on the occasions.



The Bangladesh Investment Seminars were also held in April 2016 in Tokyo. Compared to the previous occasions, businesses attendance was much larger in May, suggesting higher level of interest of the prospective or the exiting Japanese investors considering to invest or expand their investment in Bangladesh.



BIDA attends 23rd World Investment Conference at Xiamen

BIDA attended the 23rd World Investment Conference held at Xiamen, China during 7-9 September 2018 organized by the World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA). Executive Chairman Kazi M Aminul Islam participated in the event. Mr. Shah Mohammad Mahboob, Deputy Director (Corridor Development)- BIDA and Mr. Mahfuzul Haque, Commercial Counselor, Bangladesh Embassy at Beijing accompanied him.



Following the conference, BIDA arranged two seminars- one on 10 September 2018 in Xiamen and the other on 11 September 2018 in Beijing, in order to showcase investment opportunities in Bangladesh before the prospective Chinese investors. The Ambassador of Bangladesh in China M. Fazlul Karim attended the Beijing event. Around 150 potential Chinese investors attended the seminars. In both the events, Executive Chairman of BIDA gave presentations on investment prospects and incentives regime of Bangladesh and also responded to queries of Chinese investors. The Chinese business community showed deep interest in Bangladesh and expressed their intention for future investment.

Qatar

Executive Chairman of BIDA made a presentation on investment opportunities in Bangladesh on September 22, 2018, in Qatar, in which he highlighted the increasingly improving business climate, easing of constraints in power, energy and infrastructure and availability of young and educated work force in Bangladesh.

The Qatar side was strongly represented by Qatar Investment Authority and the Qatar business houses that had expressed their interest to invest in Bangladesh. They also invited Bangladeshi investors to invest in Qatar -a country with vibrant market, availability of investible resources and a world class investment and business climate.

Chengdu Dialogue on South Asia (Pan-Asia)

Mr. Susanto Kumar Sarkar, an official of BIDA attended the “Chengdu Dialogue on South Asia (Pan-Asia) Production Capacity Cooperation- 2018” which was held on 16-18 September 2018 at Chengdu, China.

BIDA representative mentioned BIDA's role and activities in his speech for attracting foreign investors and entrepreneurs investing in Bangladesh.



Thessaloniki International Fair in Greece



BIDA participated in the 83th Thessaloniki International Fair (TIF), organized by National Exhibition Organization TIF-HELEXPO, held at Thessaloniki, the second largest city in Greece on September 8 to 16, 2018. As the largest commercial trade show in southeast Europe this fair enjoyed significant international focus. TIF attracts a large number of exhibitors, visitors, professionals, and business representatives from Greece and neighboring countries that represents the market of 100,000 consumers. In the fair, Bangladesh was highlighted for tourism and business purposes.

Inspection Reform International Conference 2018



Officials of BIDA participated in the "Inspection Reform International Conference 2018", organized by International Finance Corporation, World Bank Group which was held at International Maritime Organization in London on October 8 to 16, 2018. The main theme of the conference was - Transformation, Technology and Trade: meeting the challenges of regulatory delivery. Conference Plenaries, Regional Workshops, Focus Visit and Global Regulatory Initiatives were held as part of the conference. Including World Bank, 301 delegates from 70 countries participated.

ONE STOP SERVICE

BIDA has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with six organizations on November 8, 2018 to launch One Stop Service (OSS) center. The partner organizations are-Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Firms (RJSC), North and South Dhaka City Corporations, Chattogram City Corporation, National Board of Revenue (NBR) and Sonali Bank. Through this MoU, 12 services will be brought under one roof creating a supportive environment for investors doing business in Bangladesh. A World Bank team is working with BIDA on technical issues to launch these services.

At present, investors have to wait for more than one year for some of the services. Once the OSS center is fully operational, these services will be available within one to 45 days. Primarily this facility will be available in Dhaka and Chattogram and gradually will be extended to other parts of the country.

By 2019, BIDA plans to provide investment related 154 services of 36 government agencies under one roof. All these services will be provided from BIDA's website through one application. Online payment of different fees or charges will also be possible. The OSS system will make doing business hassle-free and reduce time and cost of investors.

The following services will be provided from the One Stop Service center:

- Trade licenses from respective city corporation and local government body will be issued within 48 hours, given that all required documents are provided.
- Company registration by RJSC will be completed within 48 hours.
- Registration of BIDA will be completed within a day, given that all required documents are provided.
- Electricity connection will be provided within 10 days after receiving the application.
- BIDA will provide necessary support for land acquisition.
- Environmental certificates will be issued by Department of Environment (DOE) at the earliest possible time.
- Tax related issues will be resolved by NBR at the earliest possible time.



BIDA Photo Album



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina along with Kazi M Aminul Islam met with representatives of the Council of Saudi Chamber of Commerce of AWC at the conference room of King Saud Palace in Saudi Arabia on October 17, 2018



Kazi M Aminul Islam at the world investment forum, Xiamen, China on September 8, 2018



British parliament member Rushnara Ali came to meet with Kazi M Aminul Islam at BIDA office on July 23, 2018

BIDA Photo Album

Executive Chairman attended the signing ceremony of the contract between Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation and China National Chemical Engineering No. -7 Construction Company Limited (CC-7) for the implementation of Ghorashal-Polash Urea Fertilizer project (GPUFP) at a hotel in Dhaka on October 24, 2018

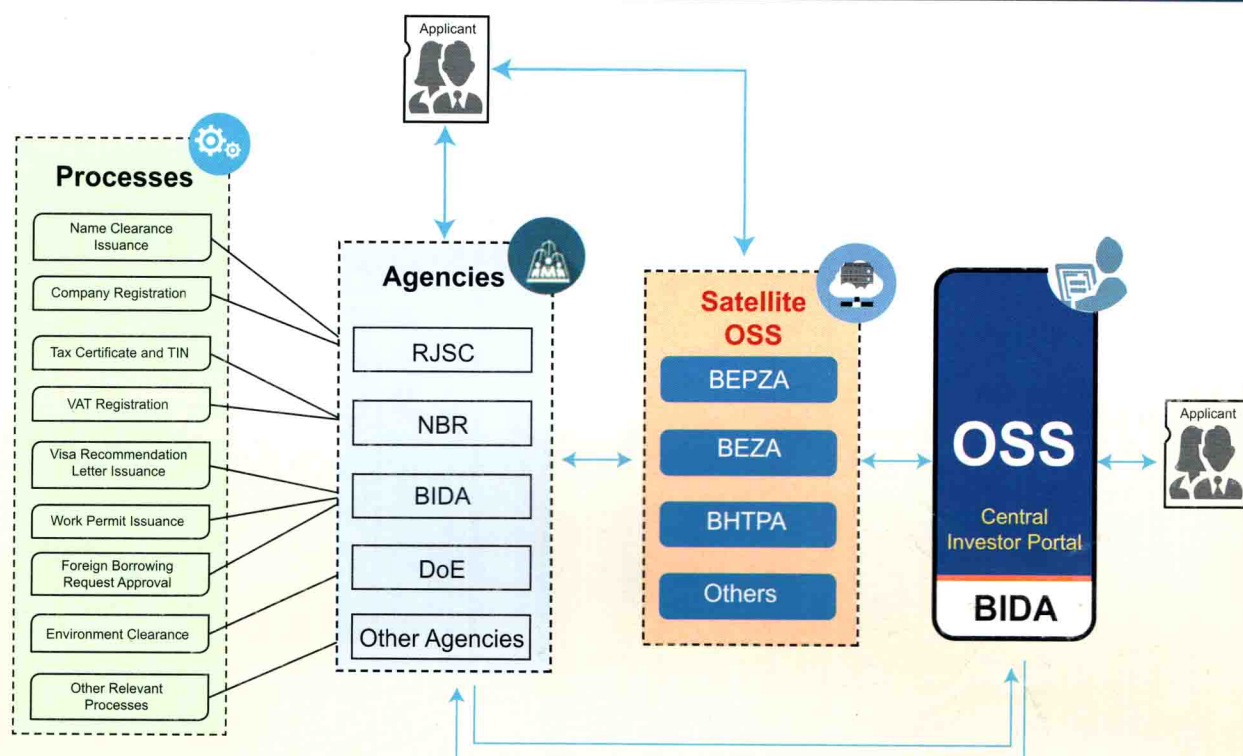


Kazi M Aminul Islam is delivering speech at the MoU signing ceremony of six organizations with BIDA at a hotel in Dhaka for launching One Stop Service Center on November 8, 2018



BIDA celebrated Bangladesh's eligibility for graduation from the group of least developed countries (LDCs) to a developing one on March 22, 2018

The OSS Model



The One-Stop Service (OSS) puts all investment facilitation mechanisms under a single umbrella, aims at easing investments in the country and thereby boosting the nation's economic development. OSS is not a place that physically provides services to the people. It is a web-based portal that includes a cloud-based website, which an investor can access from anywhere around the globe. It shortens and simplifies administrative procedures and guidelines for issuance of business approvals, permits and licenses, thereby removing bottlenecks faced by investors in establishing and running businesses.



BIDA Activities



National Development Fair-2018

The fourth National Development Fair-2018 was held on 4-6 October 2018. BIDA sponsored 23 stalls in eight divisions (Dhaka, Rajshahi, Chattogram, Sylhet, Barishal, Khulna, Rangpur & Mymensingh) and 14 districts showcasing BIDA's investment promotion activities through digital display, posters, flyers, leaflets, publications etc.

Power and Energy Week 2018

The Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources celebrated National Power and Energy Week on 6-8, September 2018 with a slogan "Anirban Agami" (Indomitable Future). BIDA actively participated in the Power & Energy Fair 2018 held at the International Convention City Bashundhara (ICCB).



Destination Bangladesh

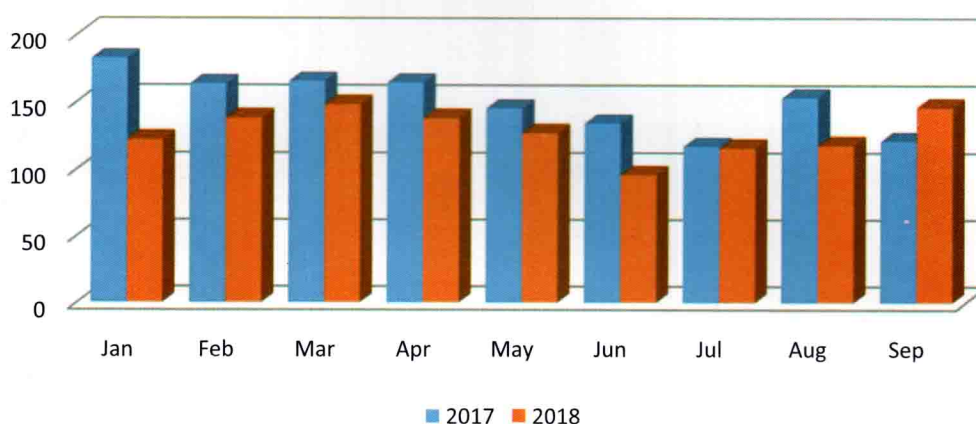


Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry (DCCI) is the largest and most vibrant business chamber in Bangladesh. On October 28, 2018 DCCI celebrated 60th anniversary at the Bangabandhu International Conference Center (BICC). On this occasion, Executive Chairman of BIDA, Kazi M Aminul Islam chaired the thematic session titled "INVESTMENT BANGLADESH-FDI Opportunities".

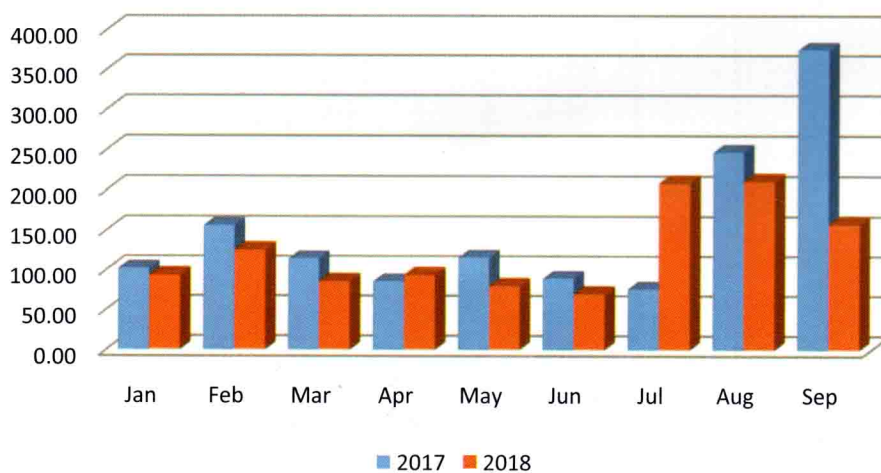
Investment Statistics

BIDA Registration of Investment Proposals (January-September 2018)

Number of Registered Projects (Local, Joint Venture & Foreign)

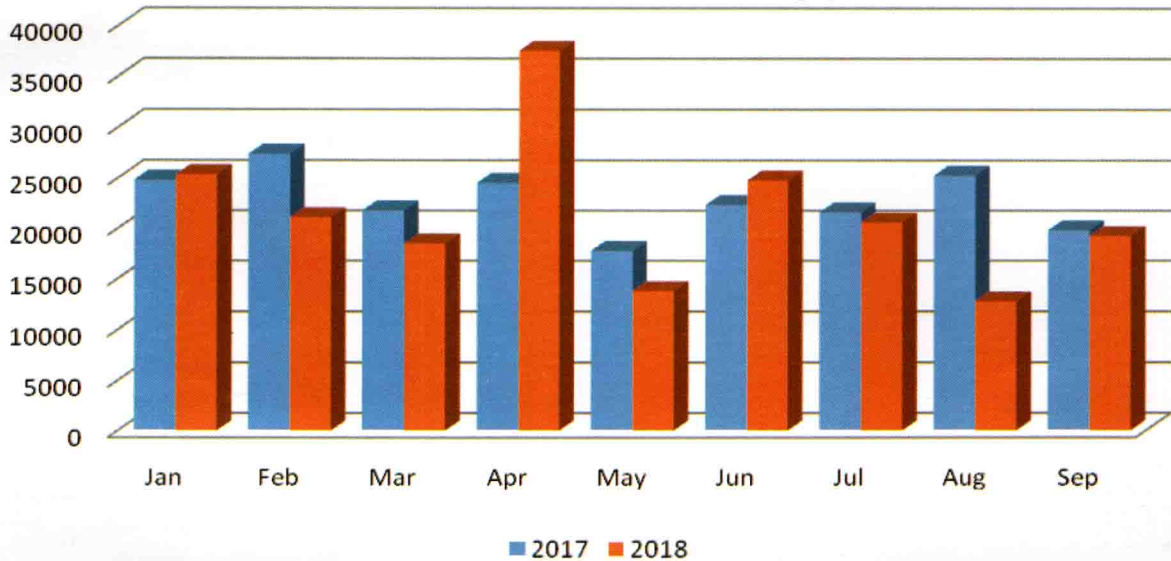


Value of Registered Project (Billion Tk)

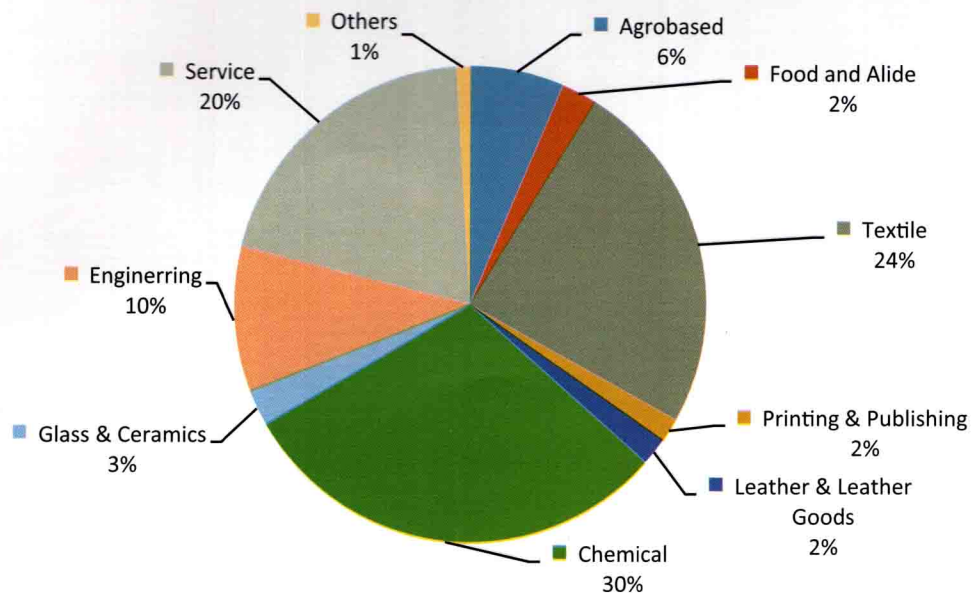


BIDA Registration of Investment Proposals (January-September 2018)

**Jobs in Registered Projects
(Local, Joint Venture & Foreign)**



Sectoral Distribution of Local Projects (January-September 2018)

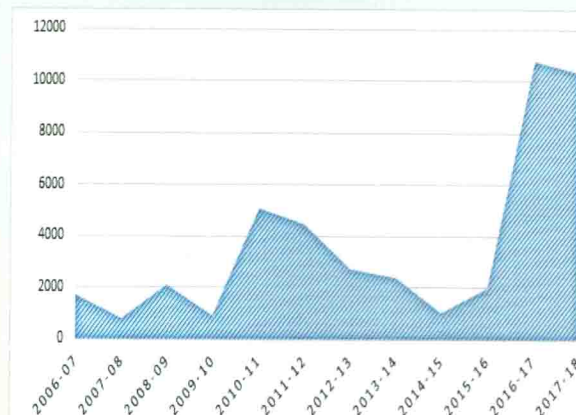


Investment Service Features BIDA Investment Facilitation by Major Service Category (January-September, 2018)

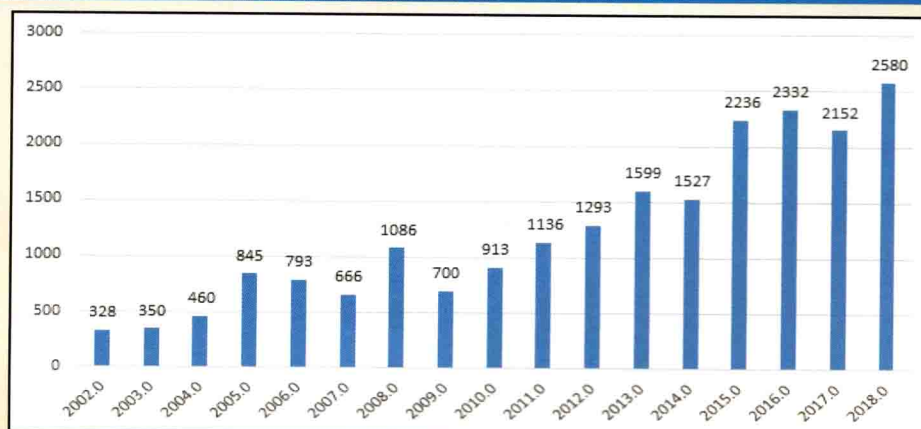
Service category	Unit	January – September
1. Investment Counseling	Person	21616
2. Project Registration	Number	1149
3. Airport Welcome Service/ Courtesy Service	Person	44
4. Work permit (New & Extension)	Person	6628
5. Remittance Approval (Royalty, Technical know How, Technical assistance and others)	Number	149
	Million BDT	6545.517
6. Foreign Loan Approval	Number	98
7. Import Registration Certificate (IRC) Recommendation (Ad hoc and Regular)	Million US\$	1510.531
8. Visa on Arrival/ Landing Permit Recommendation	Person	163
9. Visa Recommendation (E/E1/PI)	Number	4748
10. NOC for Industrial Plot Transfer	Number	09
11. Branch Office Approval (New/ Extension)	Number	132
12. Liaison/Representative Office approval (With Extension)	Number	187
13. Import Permit	Number	58
14. Capital Machineries Clearance	Number	128
15. Press Release	Number	3
16. Gas Connection	Number	5
17. Power Connection	Number	1

Number of Investment Projects/Registered firms and proposed investment (million \$) over the last 10 years:

Year	No. of Investment Projects	Registered firms and proposed investments (million \$) over the last 10 years
2006-07	191	1711
2007-08	143	785
2008-09	132	2123
2009-10	160	890
2010-11	196	5104
2011-12	221	4470
2012-13	219	2733
2013-14	124	2383
2014-15	120	1032
2015-16	151	1961
2016-17	167	10756
2017-18	160	10316



FDI Flows from 2002 to 2018:



News on Investment

- Japan Tobacco Inc (JT) completed its \$1.47 billion acquisition of Akij Group's tobacco business on November 29, 2018. This was one of the biggest single foreign direct investments in Bangladesh.
- Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) under the Ministry of Industries inked the "Ghorasal Polash Urea Fertilizer Project (GPUFP)" deal with Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd (MHI) from Japan, and the China National Chemical Engineering No-7 Construction Co Ltd. at a hotel in Dhaka on October 24, 2018. This project will be implemented through 'Bidder Financing' process, spending Tk 10,460.91 crore. Of the amount, the government will provide Tk 1,844.19 crore while the rest of the amount, Tk 8,616.72 crore, will come as commercial loan.
- Summit Corporation Limited, Mitsubishi and General Electric (GE) signed \$3 billion (about Tk 24,000 crore) deal on July 11, 2018. This is the biggest ever private foreign direct investment (FDI) in the power sector in Bangladesh. The deal is a continuation of an earlier MoU - signed for a joint venture with Mitsubishi Corporation in the presence of the Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in Singapore on March 13, 2018.

BIDA NEWSLETTER

December 2018 • Issue No. 01

A Monthly Publication of Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA)

Divisional Offices of BIDA

Divisional Offices

Address and Contact

Chattogram

Chattogram Divisional Office
Prime Minister's Office
Government Office Building No-1
2nd Floor, Agrabad, Chattogram.
Phone: 031-2520608, 031-2520904
Email: bidactg@bida.gov.bd

Rajshahi

Rajshahi Divisional Office
Prime Minister's Office
Bismillah Ha-Mim Tower, Holding No. 0211- 01
UparVadra, Post Office: Kajla; Post Code-6204
Police Station: Boalia, Rajshahi, Bangladesh
Phone: 0721-751145
Email: dir.rajshahi@bida.gov.bd

Khulna

Khulna Divisional Office
Prime Minister's Office
BDBL Bhaban (8th Floor), 25-26 KDA C/A
Khulna- 9000.
Phone: 041-72007
Email: dir.khulna@bida.gov.bd

Sylhet

Sylhet Divisional Office
Prime Minister's Office
Probaho-18, Taltola, Sylhet- 3100.
Phone: 0821-724306
Email: ad.sylhet@bida.gov.bd

Barishal

Barisal Divisional Office
Prime Minister's Office
Doyal Tower (1st floor), Nazrul Road, South Alekanda
Bangla bazar, Barisal.
Phone: 0431-64797, 0431-63869
Email: ad.barisal@bida.gov.bd

BIDA office address at Dhaka:

Plot#E-6/B, Agargaon,
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar,
Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh.

Help Desk at Shajalal International Airport:

Phone: 02-8901499
Mobile: 01716485466

Help Desk at BIDA Office:

Phone: 02-55007241-45
Fax: 02-55007238-40
E-mail: info@bida.gov.bd