



BIDA NEWSLETTER

A Monthly Publication of Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA)
January-February 2019 ■ Issue No. 02



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina with the newly elected Awami League MPs taking oath at the oath-room of Sangsad Bhaban on 3rd January administered by Speaker Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chowdhury

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BANGLADESH



Your Investment
Destination

Editor's note

The newly elected parliament members were sworn in on 3rd January 2019 and the new cabinet took oath on 7th January. The newly formed cabinet renewed their vows to fulfil the pledges made by the Prime Minister in the election manifesto, which among other goals plans to strengthen the trend of private investment for overall economic development of the country. BIDA, the apex IPA in Bangladesh, also would like to reiterate its commitment to continue working for improvement of Bangladesh's business environment. This publication is an endeavor to this end. We hope for your continued support in this regard, and wish that you would put this newsletter to good use.

Moinul Islam
Executive Member



BIDA with Women Entrepreneurs





'Power of Youth, Progress of Bangladesh' BIDA workshop in Rajshahi

The special pledge of the present government is 'Power of Youth, Progress of Bangladesh'. In order to unleash the potential of youth, the government promises to eradicate terrorism and radicalism, build a drug-free cohort of youth, engage youth in sports and healthy cultural activities, support them to become self-employed and build themselves up as entrepreneurs, generate decent work for them and provide marketable skills to enhance their proficiency. BIDA, with the guidance of the PMO has organized a workshop in Rajshahi on 26th January to identify the aspirations of youth and sensitize them to the

aforesaid pledge of the government. State Minister for Ministry of Foreign Affairs Md. Shahriar Alam, MP attended the program as the Chief Guest. State Minister for Information and Communication Technology Division, Zunaid Ahmed Palak, MP was the Special Guest. Principal Coordinator (SDG Affairs), PMO, Abul Kalam Azad and BIDA Executive Chairman (EC), Kazi M Aminul Islam, Dr. Tariq Saiful Islam of Varendra University, CEO of Don Sumdany Facilitation and Consultancy G. Don Sumdany and celebrity drama artiste Zahid Hasan were also present among others at the program. All the guests motivated the youths with their inspiring speeches while the background and objectives of the workshop were elaborated by the BIDA EC.



The special pledge of the present government is 'Power of Youth, Progress of Bangladesh'

The day-long workshop was organized under the supervision of Dr. Ramiz Uddin of A2i. Enterprising youths and public and private stakeholders participated in a productive dialogue to formulate recommendations for materializing the government pledge to make Bangladesh a developed country on the foundation of the power of youth. A panel discussion was held after the visual presentation of the recommendations. Abul Kalam Azad and Kazi M Aminul Islam took part in the panel discussion along with Dr. Chowdhury Sarwar Jahan, Professor of Rajshahi University, Akhtaruzzaman of Pabna Press Club, Social Worker Shahin Akhtar Reni and Local Entrepreneur Naimul Islam.

A meeting was held as well in the evening of 26th January to disseminate information on the activities of the investment promotion agencies of the government. Md. Shahrar Alam, MP graced the meeting as the Chief Guest. The meeting was attended by special guests Abul Kalam Azad, Kazi M Aminul Islam, Divisional Commissioner of Rajshahi, DIG of Rajshahi Range, Shahin Akhtar Reni and the President of Rajshahi Chamber of Commerce.

Kazi M. Aminul Islam gave a presentation on the activities of BIDA. Md. Moniruzzamann, General Manager of BEZA and ANM Shafiqul Islam, Project Director of Hi-Tech Park Authority gave presentations on behalf of their respective organizations. BEZA and Hi-tech Park

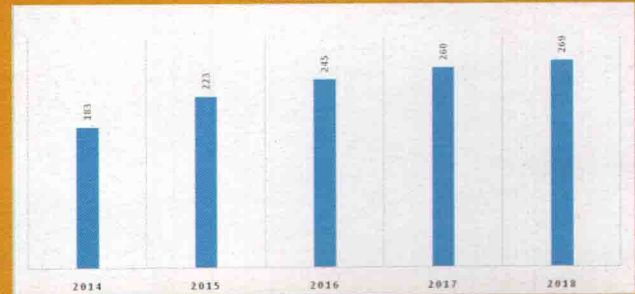
BIDA is going to organize similar workshop with the Youth of Rangpur in February.

Authority representatives also enumerated their programs for the Rajshahi division. Investors and participants from business community provided valuable recommendations in the open discussion to stimulate investment in the Rajshahi division. Abul Kalam Azad and Kazi M. Aminul Islam responded to their queries.

The Divisional Commissioner and the District Commissioner of Rajshahi and their team helped BIDA to arrange the program successfully.

BIDA is going to organize similar workshop with the youth of Rangpur in February.

Growing Japanese Investment

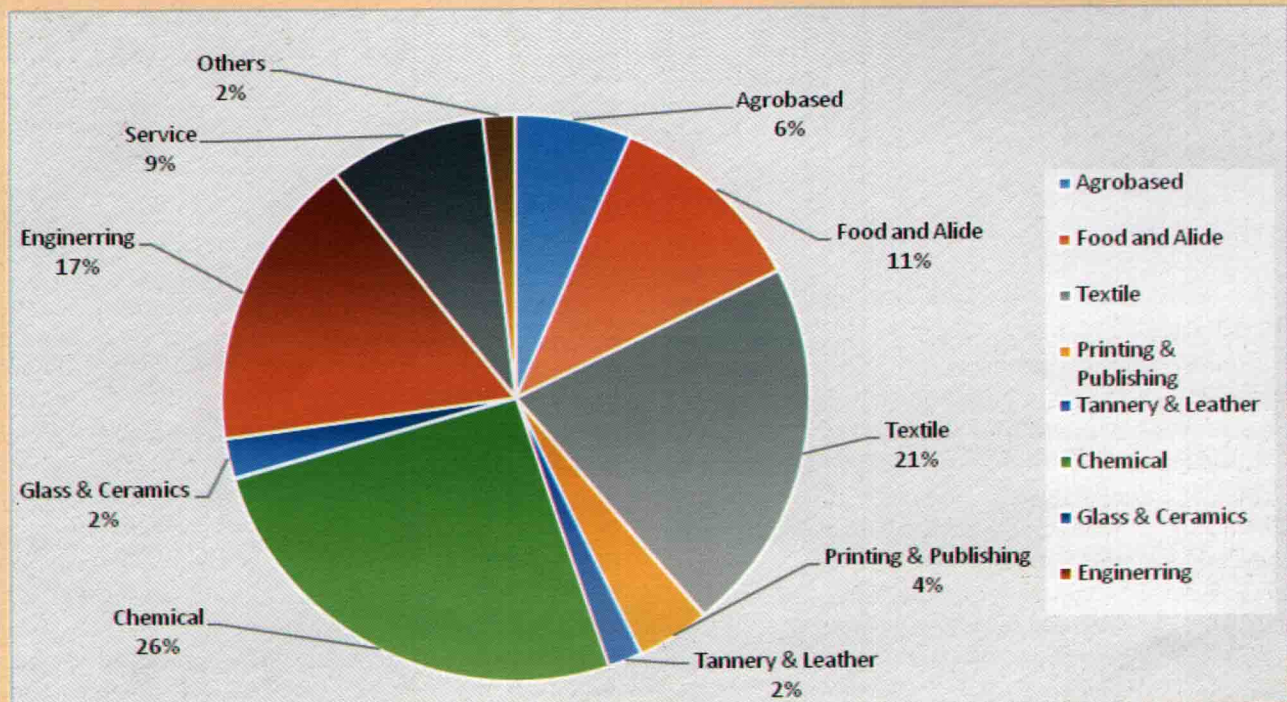


source: JETRO

Inward investment in Bangladesh from Japan is gradually increasing at the rate of sixteen to seventeen percent in recent years. Due to reasonable production cost and lower wages Bangladesh remains an attractive investment destination among Asian countries. Till 2018 Japanese investment in Bangladesh exceeds \$326 million excluding investment of Honda and Japan Tobacco. Half of the investments in the country is in textiles and garment sector. The above figure shows the trend of rising investment project by Japanese companies.

Local Investment Feature

Sector Distribution of local projects (October- December, 2018)



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BIDA Events...



Private Sector Industries and Investment Advisor to the PM, Salman F Rahman is being welcomed at BIDA office on 20th January.

Private Sector Industries and Investment Advisor to the PM, Salman F Rahman presiding at the meeting on Ease of Doing Business. Principal Coordinator (SDG Affairs), PMO, Abul Kalam Azad, Principal Secretary of the PMO, Nojibur Rahman, BIDA EC and Business Community leaders attended the meeting at BIDA office on 20th January.



Executive Chairman of BIDA unwrapping the first issue of BIDA Newsletter with the executive committee members at BIDA office on 23rd January.

BIDA Events...

Minister for Posts, Telecommunications & Information Technology Mustafa Jabbar and State Minister for ICT Division Zunaïd Ahmed Palak witnessing the MoU Signing Ceremony between BIDA and Leveraging ICT for Growth, Employment and Governance (LICT) Project at ICT Tower with other senior government officials on 16 January.



BIDA EC Kazi M Aminul Islam presiding over a meeting on Women Entrepreneurship at BIDA office on 20th December, 2018.

FDI Aftercare Training in Budapest, Hungary (13-14 December, 2018)

World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA), in association with HIPA (Hungarian Investment Promotion Agency), arranged a 2-day training course on 'Investment Aftercare' in Budapest, Hungary during 13-14 December 2019. Two BIDA Officials (Shah Mohammad Mahboob, Deputy Director (Deputy Secretary) and Farhana Pervin (Assistant Director) participated in the training event. 14 other participants from 7 countries also attended.

The course was facilitated by Andreas Dressler, an ex-WAIPA official and a renowned resource person on investment issues. The course particularly highlighted on issues like world investment trend, future of industrial development and the importance of re-investment, role of investment aftercare, processes of investment aftercare as well as a hands-on exercise on data digging to ensure and effective and efficient investment aftercare system within the IPAs.

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Although the nature and scope of investment aftercare services varies within and around the IPAs, it generally refers to working proactively with existing investors to strengthen ties with them; resolve their day-to-day issues; and also to help them identify opportunities for expansion.

In fact, one objective of aftercare is to encourage the investors to make re-investment in the host country. An effective and efficient investment aftercare system might help BIDA as well as Bangladesh to spread good words about its investment environment and to tap new FDIs to help the country propel forward.



*Participants of FDI Aftercare Training in Budapest (13-14 December 2018)
Arranged by: World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA)*

Convention of NRB Engineers (CONE)

A preparatory meeting for arranging the Convention of Non Resident Bangladeshis (NRB) Engineers was held at BIDA. BIDA Executive Chairman presided over the meeting on 31st January at BIDA conference room with the stakeholders while NRB Engineers participated at the meeting from the USA through Skype. NRBs, on different occasions, have expressed their interests to utilize their efforts, knowledge, intellect and skills for the economic development of Bangladesh. With this end in view, and with the hope to see Bangladesh as the middle income country by 2021, NRB engineers are going to organize the CONE on 26-27 February in Bangladesh. NRB engineers from all over the world will participate in this convention which will be organized with the joint collaboration of Cabinet Division, ICT Division, BIDA, ERD, MoFA, A2I, USAID and UNDP among others. Three major components of the CONE are 1. NRB Engineers, 2. Government of Bangladesh and 3. Private Sector. 45-50 papers from 13 different countries are expected to be presented at the CONE.



Stakeholders are stating their opinions at the preparatory meeting on Convention of Non Resident Bangladeshis at BIDA on 31st January

BIDA with Women Entrepreneurs



Executive Chairman of BIDA Kazi M Aminul Islam presided over a meeting on Women Enterprenership at BIDA office on 20th December, 2018

A preparatory meeting on supply and linkage development for Women Entrepreneurs was held on 20th December, 2018. Executive Chairman Kazi M. Aminul Islam presided over the meeting while President of Bangladesh Federation of Women Entrepreneurs and former Advisor to the caretaker government of Bangladesh Rokeya Afzal Rahman was present as the Special Guest.

To empower women, we have to create opportunities for women entrepreneur and link SME entrepreneur with large investment which ultimately will lead the country towards middle income status by 2021 and developed status by 2041. Leaders from different Chambers, Associations, Organizations of Women Entrepreneurs, Officials of concerned ministries & departments were present at the meeting.

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