

### INVESTMENT IS PRIORITY

# BIDA e-newsletter January 2023

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Bangladesh Investment Development Authority PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE





### **Our Points**

Bangladesh has completely changed in the past era under the efficient leadership of the Honorable Prime Minister. Bangladesh is now a role model for development. Power, communication systems, infrastructure development, per capita income, and political stability—phenomenal development in every sector—have made Bangladesh new investment destination now. Moreover, we have a huge domestic market and youthful energy, which are highly desirable to investors.

During the month of January, BIDA engaged in diverse initiatives to promote investment opportunities in Bangladesh and enhance the investment environment. The Annual report of 2021-2022 of BIDA has recently been unfolded at the Prime minister's office. During the unveiling program Honorable Prime minister gave important instruction to promote investment and to create various arena for getting more FDI from the foreign investors.

BIDA is working with the investors continuously and paying visit to the local and foreign investors to address their issues. The investors wish to invest more for increasing their export quality product. All the 5 Investment Promotion Agencies (IPA) are also working for the investors under the BIDA's coorditination. In an effort to improve business climate BIDA organized several workshops namely "Implementation of Bangladesh Investment Environment", "Investment Policy Review of Bangladesh". The later on was organized in cooperation with the ADB. So BIDA hoping that the investment policy is also attracted to the investors and Bangladesh is the safe place to invest here regarding the policy matter.

Now various country's Government delegation and Multinational groups are visiting BIDA that shows thier interest and confidence on our Work. Ms. Rushanara Ali, member of the UK House of Commons and the UK Prime Minister's Trade Envoy to Bangladesh, delegation of Nigerian Government, PRIMARK-ABF Group and China based LESSO group are the few to be mentioned here. They expressed their satisfaction on the services provided by BIDA and expressed their keen willingness to invest in Bangladesh.

BIDA and FBCCI are continuing their joint effort in order to attract more local and foreign investment. Both organizations are working together to facilitate private and public sectors to for the continuous improvement of the pro-investment climate in Bangladesh. Business Initiative Leading Development (BUILD) also visited BIDA and agreed to work together to ensure a conducive environment for local investments, which in turn, will attract more local and foreign direct investments (FDI) in Bangladesh.

Lokman Hossain Miah Executive Chairman (Senior Secretary) Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA)

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### BIDA Executive Chairman pays courtesy visit to Hon'ble Prime Minister



H.E. Sheikh Hasina, Hon'ble Prime Minister and Chairperson, Governing Board, BIDA unveiled the BIDA's Annual Report 2021–22 on January 04, 2023 at the Prime Minister's Office.

Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, Executive Chairman (Senior Secretary), BIDA paid a courtesy visit to H.E. Sheikh Hasina, Hon'ble Prime Minister and Chairperson Governing Board, BIDA on January 04, 2023 at the Prime Minister's Office. During the meeting, the Hon'ble Prime Minister and provided valuable guidance for implementation of BIDA's plans to create more investment opportunities and enhance Bangladesh's business climate. Later on, she unveiled BIDA's Annual Report 2021–22.

### **BIDA will always be with the Investors: EC BIDA**



Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, Executive Chairman, BIDA visited Pioneer Denim Limited, a leading export-oriented green textile factory at Horitola, Madhabpur, Habiganj, on January 03, 2023. Mr. Md. Badsha Miah, Director, Pioneer Denim Limited welcomed the EC BIDA. During the visit Mr. Lokman praised the management of the company for their contribution in the development of the country and expressed his gratitude. He also told that the BIDA will always be beside the investors and businessmen.

It is worth mentioning that almost Tk 1,600 crore has been invested in this factory that has a production capacity of 2,00,000 yards of denim per day. In the same compound, another garment factory is being constructed.



### Business Initiative Leading Development (BUILD) visits BIDA and agreed to work together.



Mr. Lokman Hossain Mia, EC, BIDA hosted a meeting with Ms. Nihad Kabir, Chairperson, Business Initiative Leading Development (BUILD) at BIDA office in Dhaka on January 08, 2023.

Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, Executive Chairman, Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) hosted a meeting with Ms. Nihad Kabir, Chairperson, Business Initiative Leading Development (BUILD) at BIDA office in Dhaka on January 08, 2023.

In this meeting Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah said BIDA Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) is providing 67 services to investors through its One Stop Service (OSS). At present, 23 organizations are involved in these processes.

They also agreed to work together to ensure a conducive environment for local investments,

which, in turn, could attract more local and foreign direct investments (FDI) in Bangladesh.

At this time Mr. Miah said that foreign investors first meet with local investors. "So, we need to provide proper facilities and business-friendly regulations to support businesses and make local investors happy."

Nihad Kabir highlighted various collaborative activities between the BIDA and the BUILD.

She also briefed the BIDA chief about the activities of the BUILD to develop the private sector and shared examples of regulatory bottlenecks that local and foreign investors are facing.



# Investment Promotion Agencies (IPA) of Bangladesh meets at the 3rd monthly coordination meeting



The 3rd monthly coordination meeting of all IPAs of Bangladesh was held at the Bangabandhu Hi-Tech City in Kaliakair, Gazipur on January 08, 2023.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> monthly coordination meeting of all the IPAs was held at the Bangabandhu Hi-Tech City in Kaliakair, Gazipur on January 08, 2023 presided over by the Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, Executive Chairmand, BIDA. Mr. NM Zeaul Alam, PAA, Senior Secretary, ICT Division graced the meeting as the Chief Guest. During the meeting, BIDA, BEZA, BEPZA, BHTPA, and PPPA delivered presentations on their activities to promote Bangladesh as an investment destination and emphasized enhancing coordination with all fellow IPAs.

It is to be mentioned that these monthly coordination meetings are being held regularly as per the decision of the 2nd General Meeting of the Governing Board of BIDA headed by the Hon'ble Prime Minister.

# Ms. Rushanara Ali, Member, House of Commons and the UK Prime Minister's Trade Envoy to Bangladesh visits BIDA



Ms. Rushanara Ali, honorable member of the UK House of Commons and the UK Prime Minister's Trade Envoy for Bangladesh, visited the BIDA office on January 09, 2023.

Ms. Rushanara Ali, an honorable member of the UK House of Commons and the UK Prime Minister's Trade Envoy for Bangladesh, visited the BIDA office on January 09, 2023 with H.E. Mr. Robert Chatterton Dickson, UK High Commissioner to Bangladesh. During the visit, she discussed ways to strengthen Bangladesh-UK investment cooperation with Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, Executive Chairman, BIDA .t



Ms. Rushanara Ali, an honorable member of the UK House of Commons and the UK Prime Minister's Trade Envoy for Bangladesh, visited the BIDA office on January 09, 2023.



## ADB and OECD starts to Review the Investment Policy



An Inception Workshop on "Investment Policy Review of Bangladesh" Jointly organized by BIDA and ADB, was held at BIDA's Conference Room On January 10, 2023.

An Inception Workshop on "Investment Policy Review of Bangladesh" Jointly organized by BIDA and ADB, was held at BIDA's Conference Room On January 10, 2023. Ms. Mohsina Yasmin, Executive member, BIDA presided, where Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, EC BIDA was present as the Chief guest, and Mr. Edimon County Director, Bangladesh Ginting, Residence Mission, ADB was present as the Special guest at the workshop. High officials from ADB, OECD, and representatives of related government agencies BIDA, BEZA, BEPZA, BHTPA, PPPA, BB, Finance Division, and Ministry of Commerce and Industries participated in the workshop.



A meeting was held between Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, EC, BIDA and Mr. Edimon Ginting, Country Director, Bangladesh residence Mission, Asian Development Bank (ADB), on January 10, 2023, at the BIDA conference hall. The concerned officials of BIDA and ADB were present at the meeting.

Me. Stephen Thomsen, Head of IPRs, OECD on his presentation said All reviews look at investment policy, investment promotion and facilitation and responsible business conduct. Other areas are selected based on a discussion with the government. He also remarks the area where policy should review as Investment, Investment promotion & facilitation, Trade, Competition, Corporate Government, RBC, Human resources, Tax, Public governance, Infrastructure, Green growth, Financial sector and so on. The policy will be reviewed in three steps. Firstly, OECD will research on our policy. In research they will analyses the policy existing and then they will find the fact need to be reviewed. Secondly in drafting stage OECD will Meeting with Government to discuss diagnosis and Preliminary draft will be shared with the government. Government will arrange a workshop with multi-stack holder and OECD. Finally, the review will be published and launched at the end of 2023 and will be launched by IPR.



# Nigeria is keen to expand investment and trade with Bangladesh



BIDA organized a multi-sectoral investment meeting with 11 representatives of various ministries and departments of the Nigerian government by the invitation of Bangladesh government as well as Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, EC, BIDA on January 15, 2023.

BIDA organized a multi-sectoral investment meeting with 11 representatives of various ministries and departments of the Nigerian government at the invitation of the Bangladesh government on January 15, 2023, at BIDA's conference room. Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, EC, BIDA presided over this meeting.

At this time, H.E. Mr. Akinremi Bolaji honarable Ambassador, Nigeria praised the development of Bangladesh on behalf of his country's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Investment. He said that the development of Bangladesh in the last era is remarkable. As a result of this continuous economic development, Nigeria wants to expand trade and investment with Bangladesh. He also expressed hope that an economic relationship would develop between the two countries soon.

Before that Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, Executive Chairman, BIDA said Bangladesh has completely changed in the past era under the efficient leadership of the Honorable Prime Minister. Bangladesh is now a role model for development. Power, communication systems, infrastructure development, per capita income, and political stability—phenomenal development in every sector—have made Bangladesh the best investment destination now. Moreover, we have a huge domestic market and youthful energy, which are highly desirable to investors.

He also highlighted the current scenario of Bangladesh's investment, trade, economic development, and the country's future plans to the Nigerian delegation.

In the meeting, Mr. Md. Ariful Haque, Director, BIDA, came up with a visual presentation on the "investment climate and opportunities in Bangladesh."

It is to be noted that this is the first visit of trade and investment representatives of various ministries and departments of the Nigerian government to Bangladesh.



# The business community is the best ambassador to attract FDI: BIDA chief



*Mr. Md. Sameer Sattar, president, Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI), had a curtesy visit with Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, Executive Chairman, BIDA on January 17, 2023, at the BIDA conference room.* 

Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, EC BIDA said that the business community was the best ambassador of the country to attract foreign direct investment in Bangladesh on January 17, 2023, at the BIDA conference room. When the newly elected board of directors of Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI), led by Mr. Md. Sameer Sattar, president, FBCCI called on him on the day.

In terms of FDI attraction, the EC, BIDA said that business community was the best ambassador of the country to attract foreign investments and we committed to maintain a good economic relation with all.

Due to the Russia-Ukraine conflict, the global economy was facing some challenges; however, Bangladesh's economy was still in good shape. "Moreover, with a strong demographic dividend, an enthusiastic business community, and a <u>business-friendly environment</u>, Bangladesh will be able to progress in the days to come," he added. During the meeting, Mr. Md. Sameer Sattar, president, DCCI urged both the private and public sectors to work together for the continuous improvement of the pro-investment climate in Bangladesh to enhance both local and foreign investment. He also underscored the need for a time-bound national roadmap for attracting FDI in Bangladesh, with a view to elevating the FDI to GDP ratio to 5 percent, which is currently 0.80 percent. Mr. Sameer also said that to attract FDI, a study should be undertaken to see if the OSS was operating in a functional and effective manner conducive to investors.

BIDA high officials, Mr. SM Golam Faruk Alamgir (Arman), senior vice-president, DCCI, Mr. Md. Junaed Ibna Ali, vice-president, and members of the DCCI board of directors were also present in the meeting.



### **BIDA** is working on the better Investment Environment



"Implementation of Bangladesh Investment Environment Development Program," organized by BIDA On January 17, 2023, was held at BIDA's Multipurpose Hall. Ms. Mohsina Yasmin Executive member, BIDA presided, and Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, Executive chairman, BIDA inaugurated the workshop as the chief guest. In the workshop, Mr. Abhijit Chowdhury, EM, BIDA, Mr. Matiur Rahman, EM, BIDA, and Dr. Asma Akhtar, EM, BIDA, spoke as special guests. BIDA officials and representatives of related offices and departments participated in the workshop.

### China based LESSO group visits BIDA and willing to invest Bangladesh



A high-level official delegation of the China-based LESSO Group, led by Mr. Wong Luenhei, chairman, LESSO Group and one of the top business leaders in China, and Mr. Huang Zhanxiong, vice chairman, visited and had a discussion with Mr. Salman Fazlur Rahman MP, the honorable adviser to the HPM, Private industry and investment, at his BIDA office in the presence of Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, Executive Chairman, BIDA on January 19, 2023.



Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, EC, BIDA handed over a token of love to the high-level official delegation of the China-based LESSO Group.

A high-level official delegation of the China-based LESSO Group, led by their chairman, Mr. Wong Luenhei, one of the top business leaders in China,

and vice chairman, Mr. Huang Zhanxiong, visited the BIDA office on January 19, 2023. During their visit, they held a meeting with BIDA High officials chaired by Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, EC, BIDA. Later, they had another discussion with Mr. Salman Fazlur Rahman MP, the Honorable Adviser to the HPM, Private industry and investment, at his BIDA office in the presence of the Executive Chairman, BIDA. During the visit, the Chairman of the LESSO Group along with his other members expressed their satisfaction about the overall trade and investment scenario in Bangladesh. They have assured to invest in different trade sectors in Bangladesh soon. Mr. Ziaur Rahman, Chairman, Bay Group, Bangladesh, was present during the visit.



## **PRIMARK** and ABF group visits BIDA office and willing to invest in Bangladesh



A briefing and view exchange meeting was held among BIDA officials and the delegation of PRIMARK and ABF Group, at the BIDA Conference Hall on January 25, 2023.

A briefing and view exchange meeting was held among BIDA officials and the delegation of PRIMARK and ABF Group, which was led by Mr. Paul Marchant, CEO, Primark, and Mr. Paul Lister, Director and Company Secretary, ABF Group under the chair of Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, EC, BIDA at the BIDA Conference Hall on January 25, 2023. In this meeting, Mr. Salman Fazlur Rahman MP, the Hon'ble Adviser to the HPM on Private Industry and Investment, was present as the chief guest

#### and

Mr. Shahriar Alam MP, The Hon'ble State Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh was present as the special guest. A delegate from Others' office and the Chamber of Commerce joined this meeting.



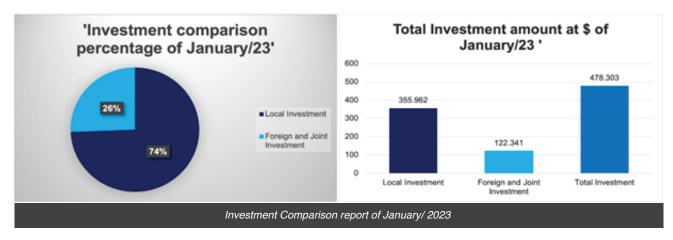
# Training Workshop on "Capacity Building on Cybersecurity"



Ms. Mohsina Yasmin, Executive member, BIDA delivered her important direction to participants during the workshop.

A 03-day long residential training workshop on "Capacity Building on Cybersecurity" in the presence of designated representatives from (1) Bangladesh Investment Development Authority, (2) Bangladesh Fire Service and Civil Defense, (3) Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishment, (4) Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha (RAJUK) and (5) Chattogram Development Authority with the overall cooperation of the development partner International Labor Organization (ILO) with the aim of continuing the integration activities of the services paid through the online OSS system of BIDA and improving the technical skills of the related manpower of the organizations. It was held on 28-31 January 2023 at BRAC CDM located in Gazipur district. Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah (Senior Secretary), Executive Chairman, Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) attended the closing ceremony as the chief guest of the workshop.

### **Investment Statistics**





### **Photo gallery**



Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, Executive Chairman, BIDA handed over BIDA's Annual Report 2021-22 to Mr. Mohammad Tofazzel Hossain Miah, Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Prime Minister, on January 4 at Prime Minister Office.



Mr. Md. Mahbub Hossian, newly appointed Cabinet Secretary is warmly greeted by Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, Executive Chairman, BIDA on January 4, 2023.



H.E. Ms. Alexandra Berg Von Linde, Ambassador of Sweden to Bangladesh, made a courtesy call on the Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, Executive Chairman of BIDA, on January 31, 2023, at BIDA's office. At this time, they discussed the overall investment environment and investment services in Bangladesh.



The coordination meeting of Bangladesh Investment Development Authority of January 2023 was held under Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, EC, BIDA on January 30, 2023, at BIDA conference room. Officials of all levels of BIDA were present at this meeting.



visited Apex Footwear Limited, Try On Shoe Material BD Ltd., Bay Footwear Ltd., Miago Bangladesh Limited, and Bay Economic Zone at Kaliakair in Gazipur on January 11, 2023. During this visit, he observed the factories' overall environment, work safety, and production and provided valuable guidance to them.



### **Photo gallery**



UNDP delegates met a courtesy call to Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, EC, BIDA on January 8, 2023.



Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, EC, BIDA visited Makalot BD Ltd. on January 11, 2023.



Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, EC, BIDA visited various shoe industries at Kaliakoir, Gazipur on January 11, 2023.



### **Photo gallery**

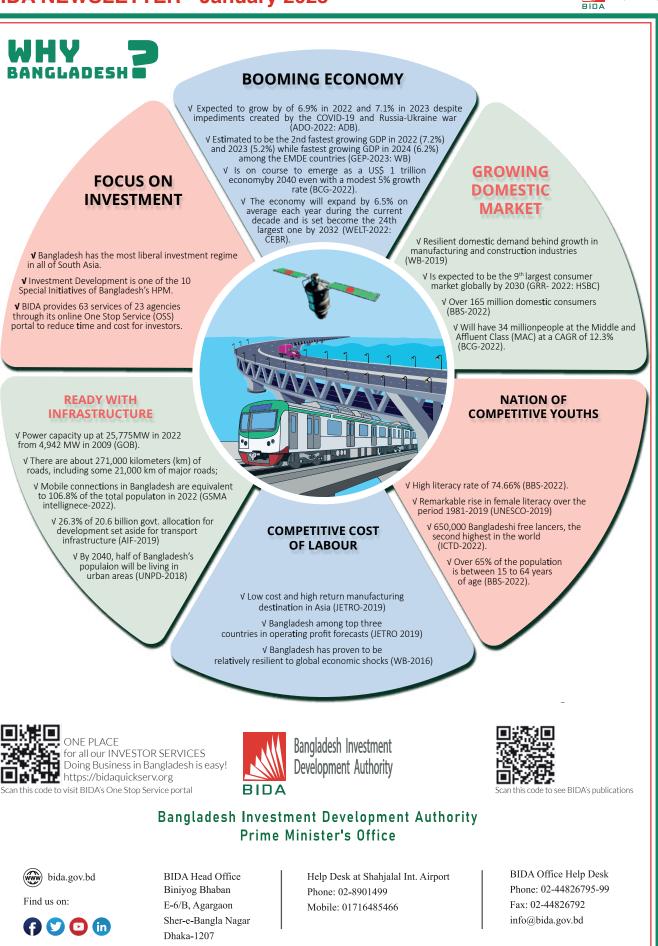


Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, EC, BIDA visited various shoe industries at Kaliakoir, Gazipur on January 11, 2023. During the visit he greets with the employees of those industries.



Mr. Eric M. Walker, President and Managing Director, Chevron Bangladesh along with other officials made a courtesy call to Mr. Lokman Hossain Miah, EC, BIDA on January 25, 2023.

### **BIDA NEWSLETTER - January 2023**



Bangladesh Investment

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