



INVESTMENT IS PRIORITY



BIDA

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IN THIS ISSUE

01

Invest in infrastructure, IT, textile and tourism: HPM tells South African businessmen

02

Commonwealth Trade and Investment Forum held in Bangladesh for the first time

03

BIDA OSS has to be the single point of entry for investors in Bangladesh: Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister

04

BIDA, BEZA and NSDA together pay homage to Father of the Nation on his 48th Martyrdom Anniversary

05

BIDA conducts After Care workshop at BRI Expo 2023

06

BIDA's latest investment statistics



Our Points

It has been our profound pleasure to pursue investment leads in previously untapped markets.

BIDA has co-organized the Commonwealth Trade and Investment Forum in Bangladesh for the first time in order to showcase both Bangladeshi and Commonwealth-wide opportunities to a global audience. The Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina MP graciously inaugurated the Forum and presented the 2nd Commonwealth Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Green Investment Award. The combined GDP of Commonwealth is projected to reach \$19.5 trillion in 2027. To

unlock this massive network, we discussed new FDI and trading opportunities among member countries, especially in the context of our graduation from LDC status.

BIDA has also showcased investment and trading opportunities between Bangladesh and South Africa in partnership with the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) in Johannesburg. BIDA and BSEC have led the Bangladesh delegation to the first-ever Bangladesh-Mauritius International Financial Centre Business Forum with the aim of developing the Bangladesh-Mauritius trade and investment corridor.

We are also dedicatedly working to establish the BIDA online One Stop Service (OSS) portal as the single point of entry for investors in Bangladesh as per the instruction of the Hon'ble Prime Minister. We are grateful for the strong guidance of the Prime Minister's Office in this regard. We are actively working with other investment service providers of Bangladesh to streamline procedures and improve the overall investor experience.

Going forward, BIDA is committed towards exploring new relationships and opportunities while ensuring the smooth entry and operation of new and innovative businesses in Bangladesh.

Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu.
May Bangladesh Live Forever.

Lokman Hossain Miah

Executive Chairman (Senior Secretary)
Bangladesh Investment Development Authority

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Hon'ble Prime Minister highlights opportunities and business climate developments in BIDA-BSEC business summit in South Africa on August 23, 2023.

Invest in infrastructure, IT, textile and tourism: HPM tells South African businessmen

Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has invited businesses in South Africa to invest in Bangladesh's thriving sectors including infrastructure, IT, textile and tourism.

She made the remarks while virtually addressing the business summit titled "The Rise of Bengal Tiger: Bangladesh Trade and Business Summit" organized jointly by the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) and Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) in Johannesburg on August 23, 2023.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister, who was in South Africa to join the 15th BRICS Summit, joined the business summit as Chief Guest. She highlighted the initiatives taken to provide a conducive environment for foreign investors in Bangladesh, which included

infrastructure development, attractive incentives, streamlining of investment-related regulations and fast-tracked digital delivery of investor services for smooth entry and operation. "Our endeavors will not only ensure benefits for us but will also boost the competitiveness and profitability of businesses that invest in our growing economy," she said.

Salman Fazlur Rahman, Private Industry and Investment Adviser to the Prime Minister, addressed the gathering as Special Guest. BSEC Chairman Professor Shibli Rubayat-UI-Islam delivered the keynote presentation highlighting the macroeconomic landscape in Bangladesh.

BIDA Executive Chairman Lokman Hossain Miah highlighted opportunities and facilities for

investment in Bangladesh. "We are delighted to be here for the first time to explore opportunities for mutual growth. BIDA can make all the arrangements for your future project in Bangladesh. Throughout your project life cycle we are with you," he said.

"Using BIDA's online One Stop Service portal, you start your business while sitting at home. This portal is active 24/7 and our efficiency in delivering time-bound approvals is at 99%. Soon, we will have all investor services of Bangladesh available on this portal," he added.

During the event, South African and Bangladeshi representatives joined a panel discussion on the new business avenues and opportunities between South Africa and Bangladesh.



Hon'ble Prime Minister inaugurates Commonwealth Trade and Investment Forum aimed at highlighting emerging opportunities for intra-Commonwealth FDI and trade on September 13, 2023.

Commonwealth Trade and Investment Forum held in Bangladesh for the first time

The potentials of increasing trade and investment among Commonwealth countries have been showcased during the first-ever Commonwealth Trade and Investment Forum (CTIF) organized in Dhaka on 13-14 September, 2023.

Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the two-day event organized by the Commonwealth Enterprise and Investment Council (CWEIC) in collaboration with BIDA, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and ZI Foundation. The forum hosted 13 Ministers and MPs from various Commonwealth countries and over 350 foreign delegates.

The 56 members of the Commonwealth including Bangladesh are working towards equitable economic empowerment and mutual cooperation, she said in her remarks as Chief Guest of the ceremony. "I hope

that through the programs arranged around this forum, the immense possibilities of all Commonwealth countries, including Bangladesh, will come to the forefront," she added.

Currently, the total FDI stock of Commonwealth countries in Bangladesh is \$7.9 billion US dollars – the main players are UK, Singapore, India, Canada and Australia, said the Private Industry and Investment Adviser to the Prime Minister, Salman Fazlur Rahman. "In 2008, this was only \$1.7 billion US dollars. So keeping with this growing trend, I believe intra-Commonwealth FDI can go much higher and in Bangladesh we can ensure ease of business and high returns for your investment," he said.

"This Forum is a strong recognition of the success we have achieved under the dynamic and visionary leadership of the Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh

Hasina," said BIDA Executive Chairman Lokman Hossain Miah and highlighted the factors driving the economic success of Bangladesh. "Please exchange your valuable ideas, find the right partners and identify pathways for your investment. We at BIDA will facilitate your success," he added.

CWEIC Chairman Lord Marland and CWEIC's Strategic Advisor of the Commonwealth Countries and Beyond Zillur Hussain MBE also delivered speeches during the ceremony organized at Bangabandhu International Conference Center (BICC).



Prime Minister gives "Commonwealth-Bangladesh Bangabandhu Green Investment Award" to Uganda's Eco Brixs at Commonwealth Trade and Investment Forum-2023 on September 13, 2023.

HPM presents 2nd Commonwealth-Bangladesh Bangabandhu Green Investment Award

During the inauguration ceremony, the Hon'ble Prime Minister presented the 2nd Commonwealth-Bangladesh Bangabandhu Green Investment Award to Eco Brixs, a Ugandan SME working to revolutionize recycling sector. Sinan Kitegenda, Chief Technology Officer of Eco Brixs, received the award.

Introduced in 2022 as a part of the "Mujib Climate Prosperity Decade," the Commonwealth-Bangladesh Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Green Investment Award is presented to innovative enterprises from the Commonwealth family that

contributes to sustainability and low-carbon pathways of business.

The first-ever Commonwealth-Bangladesh Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Green Investment Award was presented to Malawi's renewable energy company Planet Green Africa at the Commonwealth Trade and Investment Summit organized last year in London.

Commonwealth experiences highlighted in panel discussions

The Forum hosted 12 sessions at Intercontinental Hotel, Dhaka. Distinguished ministers and business leaders from the Commonwealth countries joined the panel discussions.

The sessions are "The Bangladesh Opportunity" – Commonwealth

Partnerships; The Global Economy: Breaking Down Barriers to Trade; Mental Health in the Workplace: Creating a Positive Working Environment; Attracting Investment: Commonwealth Expertise; Banking and Professional Services: Enhancing Access, Cameroon Opportunities; Tech and Change: Commonwealth Innovation; Pharmaceuticals and Public Health, SMEs: Formalising and Internationalising; Green Financing and Sustainable Economic Growth: People to People Connectivity and Tourism and Securing Global Supply Chains.



Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister instructs investment-service providers to accelerate service integration with BIDA OSS during a meeting held at BIDA conference room on July 6, 2023.

BIDA OSS has to be the single point of entry for investors in Bangladesh: Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister

Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister Tofazzal Hossain Miah commends BIDA for streamlining and digitalizing its services to improve investor experience.

All investment-service providers in Bangladesh must streamline, digitalize and integrate their services with BIDA online One Stop Service (OSS) portal, said the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, Tofazzel Hossain Miah.

He delivered the instruction while chairing a meeting organized by BIDA on July 6, 2023 to catalyze the integration of services with BIDA OSS and also to ensure its higher utilization.

The heads of government ministries, departments, agencies and business chambers with whom BIDA has entered service-integration MoUs participated in the meeting.

“BIDA OSS has to be the single point of entry for investors in Bangladesh,” said the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister as he emphasized the importance of improved services in ensuring national development.

He commended BIDA for streamlining and digitalizing its regulatory services to improve investor experience. He then instructed other investment-service

providers to simplify service procedures to reduce time and cost involved with availing their services before integration with BIDA OSS. “This is a functional level meeting and we will convene periodically in order to ensure that we remain on track,” he said.

BIDA service delivery procedure involve maximum two desks and are delivered as per time stipulated by law, spanning from 24 hours to 15 days, said BIDA Executive Chairman Lokman Hossain Miah in his remarks. “This meeting has been convened in order to accelerate integration of all investment-related services with BIDA OSS as per the instruction of the Hon’ble Prime Minister. Our goal is to provide 150 streamlined services of over 50 organizations through BIDA OSS in order to become more competitive as an investment destination,” he added.

During the meeting, the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies (RJSC), National Board of Revenue (NBR), Bangladesh Bank, Ministry of Land, Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC),

Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC), Chattogram City Corporation (CCC), RAJUK, Local Government Division (LGD), Security Services Division (SSD), Fire Service and Civil Defense (FSCD), Dhaka WASA, Export Promotion Bureau (EPB), Jalalabad Gas Transmission and Distribution System Ltd., Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishments (DIFE), Directorate of Registration, Department of Immigration and Passport, Department of Explosives, Office of the Chief Inspector of Boilers, Sonali Bank, Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI), Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI), Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) and Foreign Investors’ Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) provided updates on their service integration efforts.

BIDA established the country’s first inter-operable platform BIDA OSS in February, 2019 as per the Bangladesh Online One Stop Service Act, 2018. So far, 80 services of 23 agencies have been integrated with the platform.



BIDA, BEZA and NSDA observe Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's 48th Martyrdom Anniversary and National Mourning Day on 15th August 2023.

BIDA, BEZA and NSDA together pay homage to Father of the Nation on his 48th Martyrdom Anniversary

BIDA has paid its sincerest tribute to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on his 48th Martyrdom Anniversary and National Mourning Day, 2023 in a discussion meeting organized jointly with the Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (BEZA) and the National Skill Development Authority (NSDA).

Tofazzel Hossain Miah, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, joined the discussion meeting as Chief Guest. He paid homage to Bangabandhu's unwavering dedication to Bangladesh's prosperity. He recalled a time when the nation grappled with staggering poverty rates, emphasizing the transformative journey spurred by Bangabandhu's vision.

Lokman Hossain Miah, Executive Chairman of BIDA, Sheikh Yusuf Haroon, Executive Chairman of BEZA, Mohammad Salahuddin, Secretary, Prime Minister's Office and Nasreen Afroz, Executive Chairman of NSDA joined as Special Guests.

BIDA Executive Chairman Lokman Hossain Miah underscored Bangabandhu's struggle against oppression and envisioned a prosperous Bangladesh. BEZA Executive Chairman Sheikh Yusuf Haroon urged vigilance against groups threatening the nation's development and emphasized the importance of upholding justice and constitutional integrity.

PMO Secretary Mohammad Salahuddin highlighted Bangabandhu's courage and struggle for independence. NSDA Executive Chairman Nasreen Afroz praised his efforts in implementing progressive policies in all spheres.

Avijit Chowdhury, Executive Member of BIDA in his welcome remarks shed light on Bangabandhu's pioneering nation-building initiatives and Bangladesh's global recognition.

All officials and staffers of BIDA, BEZA and NSDA joined the discussion meeting and paid tribute to the Father of the Nation and his family member martyrs on August 15, 1975 by observing 1-minute of silence.



Discussion held on developing Bangladesh-Mauritius trade and investment corridor through world-renowned Mauritius IFC on August 28, 2023.

BIDA-BSEC leads Bangladesh delegation to Bangladesh-Mauritius business forum

BIDA and the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission have led the Bangladesh delegation to the first-ever Bangladesh-Mauritius International Financial Centre Business Forum.

The forum was hosted by the Economic Development Board Mauritius (EDB) and the Standard Chartered Bank in Mauritius on August 28, 2023.

BIDA Executive Chairman Lokman Hossain Miah and Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission Chairman Prof. Shibli Rubayat-Ul-Islam discussed opportunities that Bangladesh offers for both inbound and outbound investments.

Top representatives of the financial services sector in Mauritius joined the interactive information sharing and dialogue on the opportunities that exist along the Bangladesh-Mauritius trade and investment corridor.

The Mauritius International Financial Centre (IFC), a core part of the Mauritian economy, contributes almost US\$1 billion to GDP (8% of total) and promote cross-border investment, cross-border corporate banking and private banking and wealth management. Since inception, MIFC has managed close to US\$1 trillion of capital flows.

Special Feature: The potential of trade and investment between Bangladesh and the African continent



Professor Shibli Rubayat-Ul-Islam
*Chairman, Bangladesh Securities and
Exchange Commission*

Bangladesh and South Africa enjoy friendly relations since the establishment of their diplomatic relationship on 10 September 1994. The potential for trade and investment between Bangladesh and the African continent has been growing in recent years. Since the visit of South Africa's then President Nelson Mandela to Bangladesh in 1997 for celebrating 25 years of independence of Bangladesh, the bilateral relations between the two countries have remained very cordial. A Declaration of Intent (DOI) was signed in 1997 between President Mandela and Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina expressing intention of both Bangladesh and South Africa to explore all possible avenues to expand and deepen the extent of political and economic cooperation.

Bilateral relations between South Africa and Bangladesh are managed through a structured bilateral consultation mechanism, the Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM), which provides for both parties to meet annually on a rotational basis. The SOM is co-hosted at the level of Deputy Director-General. The inaugural SOM took place from 11-12 June, 2012 in Dhaka, Bangladesh and the latest (sixth) SOM took place on 03 February, 2023 in Pretoria of South Africa.

Bangladesh is known for its strengths in the textile and apparel industry, while many African nations have abundant natural resources and agricultural potential. This complementarity can create opportunities for trade in textiles, raw materials and agricultural products. Bangladesh and South Africa share similar views and positions on wide range of issues at the international forums and extend support to each other.

Most of the peacekeepers of Bangladesh were deployed in Africa

through a number of UNPKOs e.g. Namibia, Somalia, Uganda, Rwanda, Mozambique, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Cote d'Ivoire, MONUC (Congo) etc. where they have held the UN flag high and steadfast.

As per the data of FY 2022-23, export to African Countries from Bangladesh was USD 399 million and import from African Countries to Bangladesh was USD 11,760 million. Both the Bangladeshi government and some African governments have taken steps to promote trade and investment between the two regions. Bilateral agreements and diplomatic efforts can facilitate economic cooperation.

To realize the potential for trade and investment between Bangladesh and Africa, both sides need to engage in proactive efforts to facilitate business interactions, reduce trade barriers and promote investment-friendly environments. This could include trade missions, investment promotion, capacity-building programs and public-private partnerships. Additionally, businesses from both regions should conduct thorough market research and due diligence to identify opportunities and mitigate risks effectively.

Considering the present business ties, cultural mixes and the historical relationship, Bangladesh would be the best destination for Africa to invest and vice-versa to get the maximum mutual benefit out of it. Bangladesh wholeheartedly welcomes Africa to explore the golden opportunity of business and trade relationship.



A three-day exhibition titled "The Belt & Road Initiative in Bangladesh at the Bangabandhu Bangladesh-China Friendship Exhibition Center starts on September 8, 2023.



Success Story: Rise of Akij Group

It's more than fifty years that AKIJ Group emerged into the market as a short-time jute trader. From a humble beginning, it expanded up to one of the top conglomerates in Bangladesh. The group value consumers as unique individual and remain uncompromised to offer the highest quality products and services taking into considerations its corporate responsibility for the society and the environment.

Through the years, its ceaseless efforts, combined with dynamic management and support of numerous clients, have led into diversifying its business from jute to manufacturing handmade cigarettes. With the passage of time, the group undertook new ventures and presently more than 25 concerns are under its umbrella like Jute, Food & Beverage, Plastics, Cement, Ceramics, Printing and Packaging, Poly Fiber, Textiles, Particle board, Match, Shipping, Biax Films and Tableware etc. A large number of people which is almost 65,000 is employed and cared for as members of the AKIJ corporate family. Akij Group is 3rd highest Tax payer in Bangladesh and has a gross turnover of more than USD 1.2 billion. There are many more avenues

BIDA conducts After Care workshop at BRI Expo 2023

BIDA has conducted an aftercare workshop for Chinese investors at The Belt and Road Initiative in Bangladesh Exhibition, 2023.

The workshop titled "Stakeholder Consultation with Chinese Investors: Challenges, Expectation & Prospect" was organized jointly by BIDA and Bangladesh-China Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCCI) on Sept 9, 2023 at the Bangabandhu Bangladesh-China Friendship Exhibition Center in Purbachal.

Around 70 Chinese companies shared their achievements, concerns and expectations regarding the implementation of their investment projects as well as future reinvestment plans during the workshop. BIDA has been providing fast-track investment aftercare support to all investors, including Chinese investors.

BIDA Executive Member (Strategic Investment Wing) Avijit Chowdhury attended the event as the Chief Guest. BIDA Director General (International Investment Promotion) Shah Mohammad Mahboob presented overall scenario of Bangladesh's investment climate.

The three-day exhibition on The Belt & Road Initiative in Bangladesh was jointly

organized by the Chinese Embassy in Bangladesh, Bangladesh-China Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCCI) and Chinese Enterprise Association Bangladesh (CEAB).

Briefing workshop for newly-registered businesses

BIDA's Investment Aftercare Unit has organized briefing workshop for newly-registered businesses on September 25, 2023 at the BIDA Multipurpose Hall.

The workshop was organized to convey information on BIDA's services available on BIDA online One Stop Service (OSS) portal and the facilitating services of BIDA's wings dedicated to Local and Foreign Investment Promotion, Investment Aftercare, Policy Advocacy etc.

More than 65 foreign and local investors actively attended the workshop offering valuable insights, expressing their expectations regarding the investment climate in Bangladesh.

BIDA Executive Chairman Lokman Hossain Miah joined the workshop as the Chief Guest and Executive Member Avijit Chowdhury chaired the event.

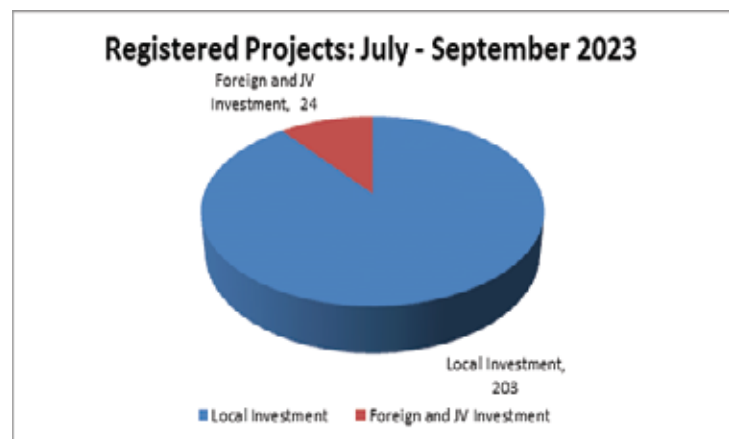
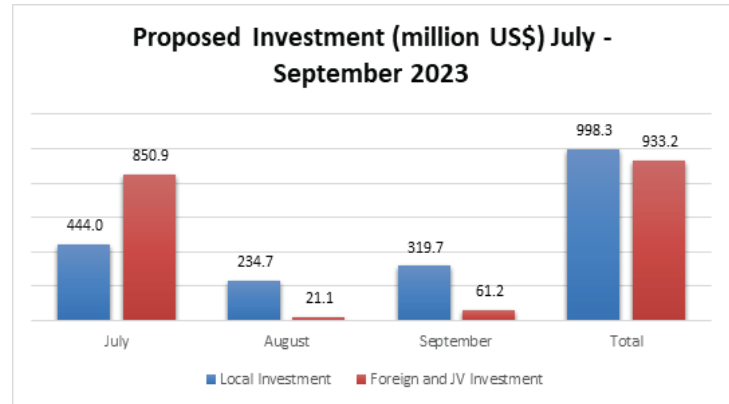
being emerged with hi-tech facilities and environmental friendly industries. Foreign investors have shown keen interest to join with Akij for joint ventures.

AKIJ group has never limited its aim to profit making only. Besides playing a part in expanding in commerce and business, the company is very keen to contribute for the development of the poorer sector of the society by actively contributing in health, education, religious and cultural dimensions.

The Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) is the apex investment promotion agency (IPA) of Bangladesh. BIDA is the first step for investors exploring investment opportunities in the country. BIDA conducts active promotion of diversified investments in key strategic sectors and facilitates the entry, operation and growth of investment projects. BIDA is integrally involved in the development activity of Akij Group.

The legacy of AKIJ GROUP is over half a century old and over the years Akij has established itself as the revered industrial family of Bangladesh. The visionary business leader, the founder Chairman late Sheikh Akij Uddin has laid the road to the successes. Under the dynamic leadership of present Chairman Sheikh Nasir Uddin, CIP, the Akij Group will continue to grow with the same trend and tempo in the days to come and remain as the active conglomerate for the socio-economic development of the beloved country, Bangladesh.

Latest Investment Statistics (July to September 2023)



Online OSS (Up to 30 September 2023) at a glance

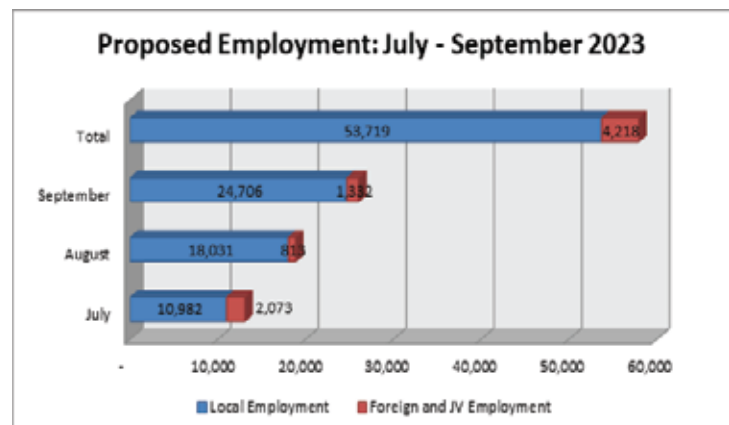
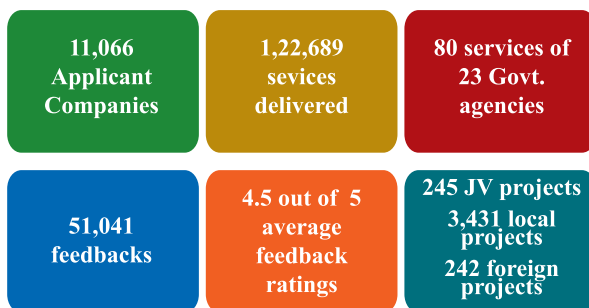


PHOTO GALLERY



Mohsina Yasmin, executive member of BIDA and Audrey Tan, director of Enterprise Singapore Group, sign the MoU on behalf of their respective organizations at a function at the BIDA conference room in Dhaka on July 5, 2023.



Pavel Yalenski, Founder & CEO of JSC Mechatronics (Belarus), and Shafiqul Alam Chowdhury, Chairman of Bongo Technology Ltd., has a conversation with Lokman Hossain Miah, Executive Chairman of BIDA, regarding the investment climate in Bangladesh on 16 July, 2023 at BIDA Conference Hall.



The International Finance Corporation (IFC) delegations make a courtesy call on the Executive Chairman of BIDA, Lokman Hossain Miah, at his office on August 1, 2023.



Representatives of the Bangladesh Thai Chamber of Commerce and Industry meet Lokman Hossain Miah, Executive Chairman, BIDA on August 3, 2023 at the BIDA Conference Hall.



A meeting on August 7, 2023 led by EC BIDA, Lokman Hossain Miah, with the World Bank Group. The discussion focuses on bolstering Bangladesh's blue economy, emphasizing collaboration, sustainable practices and curbing single-use plastics.



On August 9, 2023, representatives from Copenhagen Urban Solar Parks meet with Lokman Hossain Miah, Executive Chairman of BIDA, to discuss investment potential in Bangladesh's burgeoning solar power sector.



On August 10, 2023, the annual performance agreement is signed between the Prime Minister's office and the departments and organizations under it. The principal secretary of the HPM, Md. Tofazzal Hossain Miah, is present as the chief guest of the event. EC, BIDA Lokman Hossain Miah signs the annual performance agreement on behalf of BIDA.



All officials and staff of BIDA, BEZA and NSDA pay tribute to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on National Mourning Day at Biniyog Bhavan on August 13, 2023, under the guidance of the Hon'ble Prime Minister's Principal Secretary, Md. Tofazzal Hossain Miah.

INVEST IN BANGLADESH



STABLE DEMOCRACY
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FOCUS ON INFRASTRUCTURE
100 SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES
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CASH INCENTIVES UP TO 20%
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INSTANT STARTING OF BUSINESS
POWER CONNECTION IN 28 DAYS
CONSTRUCTION PERMIT IN 60 DAYS
IMPROVING BUSINESS CLIMATE
SKILLED WORKFORCE
DUTY/QUOTA-FREE
ACCESS TO EU MARKET
EXPORT PROCESSING ZONES
TARIFF CONCESSIONS

"WE INVITE YOU TO INVEST IN BANGLADESH.
YOU WILL HAVE THE FULL SUPPORT OF MY GOVERNMENT."

- SHEIKH HASINA
HONOURABLE PRIME MINISTER



Bangladesh Investment
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Bangladesh Investment Development Authority
Prime Minister's Office



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