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Essentials Go Wild

- ❑ Importers increased the prices of numerous essentials as the Russia-Ukraine conflict continues
- ❑ Bangladesh imported grain products worth over BDT 3,000 crore from Russia and over BDT 2,500 crore from Ukraine in the fiscal 2020-21
 - **Wheat and Meslin**
 - Total Import BDT 13,211.7 crore
 - From Russia BDT 2,736 crore (20.7%)
 - From Ukraine BDT 2,262 crore (17.1%)
 - **Sunflower and Cotton Seed Oil**
 - Total Import BDT 73.2 crore
 - From Ukraine BDT 36.9 crore (50.4%) ¹

01

Universal Pension Scheme

- ❑ The scheme would be implemented in the next six months to one year
- ❑ Aged between 18 and 50 could participate in it by contributing certain amount of Fees
- ❑ Providing the fact - current dependency rate of 7.7% will grow to 24% in 2050 and 58% in 2075 ²

Apparel Exports to China Dwindle

- ❑ Overall exports to China rises **10%** in Jul-Jan period
 - Growth of Major Export Items to China:
 - Footwear **41%**
 - Iron and steel **8%**
 - Rawhide **8%**
 - Knitwear **-30%**
 - Woven garments **-10%**
 - Jute & jute goods **10%** ³

Remittances Hit 22-month Low

- ❑ Remittances declined **16%** year-on-year to **\$1.49 billion** in February
- ❑ The government raised the cash incentive for sending remittances through official channels to **2.5%**, up from **2%**. But the inflow failed to gain its expected momentum ⁴

Rooppur Power Plant Sees 20% Development Budget Cut

- ❑ National Economic Council approved the revised budget of **BDT 14,836 crore** for FY2021-22, down from **BDT 18,426 crore**
- ❑ Russia is providing **BDT 91,040 crore** for the **BDT 113,092 crore** project ⁵

VENTURE CAPITAL

Bangladesh Venture Capital invests in Three Local Start-ups

- ❑ Three local startup companies are:
 - **BD Recycle and Technologies Limited**
 - **Inventus Limited**
 - **Textone Limited**
- ❑ The VC has also sought permission from the central bank to invest **USD 10,000** to acquire a **0.85% stake** in BrioAgro, a Spanish agro-tech based startup ⁶



GoZayaan Acquires Pakistani Travel-tech Platform

- ❑ For this acquisition, GoZayaan raised an undisclosed amount in extended seed funding
 - Founded in 2017
 - Partnered with over **400** hotels and bus firms
 - Employs about **100** people now ⁷



03

Startups in Bangladesh

- ❑ Over local **100 startups** raised funds so far
- ❑ Local startups received at least **USD 165 million** funding in 2021
- ❑ BSEC considers making rules easier for startups to get listed in SME ⁸

Mercantile Bank Unit Fund

- ❑ BSEC approves draft prospectus of Mercantile Bank Unit Fund
- ❑ The fund's primary target size is **BDT 50 crore** ⁹

Nebras Power Makes Payment To Unique Hotel

- ❑ Nebras Power Investment Management BV, a Qatar based investment company, has paid **BDT 82 crore** to Unique Hotel and Resorts Ltd as the first phase payment for acquiring Unique Meghnaghat Power Ltd
- ❑ Nebras Power signed an agreement to buy a **24% stake** at a total cost of **BDT 450 crore** ¹⁰

National Tea Plans to Raise Paid-up Capital by Issuing Right Shares

- ❑ Business status of National Tea Company Ltd (NTC) from July to December 2021:
 - Turnover of **BDT 74.29 crore**
 - EPS of **BDT 8.66 crore**
 - Paid-up Capital **BDT 6.6 crore** ¹¹

BANK AND NBFI

Upay and Pathao Signed an Agreement for Cash Solutions

- ❑ **Upay**, a digital financial service brand of UCB Fintech Company Limited, a subsidiary of the United Commercial Bank
- ❑ Started its journey in 2021
- ❑ Upay will collect cash from **53** points of Pathao Courier service across the country ¹²



Soft Tech Innovation Gets Licence as Payment System Operator

- ❑ Soft Tech Innovation Limited is a software developing company providing tech-based solutions from 2005. Two wings - **amarPay** and **MuthoFun**
- ❑ **amarPay** will work as a merchant aggregator service provider within the country ¹³



IPDC Continues Thrive Even Amid Challenging Times

- ❑ **Loans and advances: 21%** up to **BDT 6,533 crore**
- ❑ **Deposits: 15.2%** up to **BDT 6,041 crore**
- ❑ **Revenue: 21.7%** up to **BDT 355 crore**
- ❑ **Operating profit: 31.2%** up to **BDT 220 crore**
- ❑ **Operating cost: 7.9%** up to **BDT 124 crore**
- ❑ **Net profit: 24.9%** up to **BDT 88 crore** ¹⁴



Singer Bangladesh Limited

- ❑ Singer is putting emphasis on brick-and-mortar sales as well as fast-expanding digital commerce in order to serve the current generations
 - Operating in Bangladesh for **117** years
 - About **437** retail outlets
 - **1,200** dealers ¹⁵

SINGER
Embrace Life Now

Agora acquired by Sri Lankan company

- ❑ Agora in hindsight:
 - In 2001 Rahimafrooz opened the first superstore
 - **18** outlets now, **15** in Dhaka, **2** in Sylhet, **1** in Chattogram
- ❑ Modern retail sector at a glance:
 - Over **BDT 5000 crore** investment
 - Around **BDT 3000 crore** in annual turnover
 - ACI venture Shwapno the market leader
 - Agora second largest
 - Meenabazar third largest ¹⁶



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Disclaimer: All information provided on the report have been collected from local news platforms. **Maslin Research Team** is not responsible for the accuracy of the information. We caution that these platforms may contain outdated, inaccurate or false information. **Maslin Capital Limited** excludes any responsibility in connection with these platforms.

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