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July Remittance Hits Two-year High

- ❑ Bangladesh received **USD 2.2 billion** from the migrants overseas in July
- ❑ The amount is **19.75%** higher than June's **USD 1.83 billion**
- ❑ **17.56%** growth compared to the corresponding month last year ¹

World Bank Approves USD 500 Million Credit to Bangladesh

- ❑ The World Bank has approved a **USD 500 million** credit to improve disaster preparedness
- ❑ Inland flooding in 14 flood-prone districts
- ❑ Over **1.25 million** people will be beneficiaries
- ❑ Constructing over 500 flood shelters, access roads, and climate-resilient community infrastructure ²

Bangladesh's Q1'22 FDI Sees 50% Growth

- ❑ Bangladesh received foreign direct investment worth **USD 888.48 million** in the first quarter of 2022, a growth of **50.14%**
- ❑ The net influx of foreign investment during the same period last year was **USD 592 million**
- ❑ FDI in the form of equity capital skyrocketed **105.26%** to **USD 288.33 million** during the first quarter of 2022, an increase from **USD 140.47 million** in the same period 2021 ³

CMSMEs Get BDT 25,000 Crore

- ❑ Bangladesh Bank unveiled a **BDT 25,000 crore** refinance scheme for cottage, micro, small and medium enterprises (CMSMEs)
- ❑ Tenure of the fund is **3 years**
- ❑ NBFIs will receive funds at **2%** from the central bank, while CMSME borrowers will get loans at a maximum interest rate of **7%** ⁴

Trade Deficit Hits Record USD 33.25 Billion in FY-22

- ❑ Bangladesh's trade deficit hit a historic high of **USD 33.25 billion** in the fiscal 2021-22
- ❑ The current account deficit also surpassed **USD 18.50 billion**
- ❑ The trade gap with the rest of the world increased by nearly **40%** or **USD 9.47 billion** to **USD 33.25 billion** during the period, from **USD 23.78 billion** of previous year ⁵

VENTURE CAPITAL

Iterative Picks Bangladeshi Startups Barikoi and Thrive EdTech

- ❑ **Iterative** runs a Y Combinator-style accelerator program. It operates two cohorts per year and invests between **USD 150K to USD 500K** in each startup
- ❑ **Barikôï** has built mapping API's and solutions for Bangladesh
- ❑ **Thrive.** EdTech aims to provide personalized tutoring at scale
- ❑ Previously, Iterative backed two Bangladeshi startups: **GoZayaan** and **Kludio** ⁶

Bangladeshi Startups raises USD 90 Million in H1

- ❑ Of the latest investment, business-to-business platform **ShopUp** raised **USD 63 million** followed by delivery service  **USD 13 million**
- ❑ Currently, Bangladesh boasts more than **1,200** active startups
- ❑ The local startups have created employment for over 1.5 million ⁷

03

VENTURE CAPITAL

Jahaji Receives Seed Funding from Stanford University



- ❑ The seed spark team has announced six winners among 20 finalists of this cohort and **Jahaji** is one of the six winners
- ❑ Stanford Seed is an initiative of the Stanford Graduate School of Business ⁸

HungryNaki Scales Down Operations



- ❑ HungryNaki Scaled down its operations and laid off a majority of its employees
- ❑ The company has cut its coverage by half to 15 zones from 30
 - Alibaba-owned Daraz acquired HungryNaki in 2021 ⁹

04

BSEC to Look into Libra Infusions

- ❑ BSEC has formed an inquiry committee to look into investor complaints against Libra Infusions Limited
 - **BDT 1.50** crore paid-up capital
 - **BDT 950** last share trading price
 - Investors suffered for a 2-year lag in financial disclosure
 - **BDT 157.2 crore** dispute with Al-Arafah Islami Bank settled through Court
 - **BDT 1264** NAVPS on 31st March, 2020 ¹⁰

DSE Concerned Over Midland Bank's FDR in NBFIs

- ❑ DSE has expressed its concerns about Midland Bank Limited's huge fixed deposits in a number of scam-hit NBFIs and soaring non-performing loans
- ❑ Midland Bank deposited **BDT 185.05 crore** as FDR with nine NBFIs
- ❑ DSE sent to the BSEC its observations about the Midland Bank's IPO proposal ¹¹

BSEC Increases SME Board Investment Limit to BDT 30 Lakh

- ❑ BSEC has increased the minimum investment limit from **BDT 20 lakh** to **BDT 30 lakh** for an investor to be qualified for trading shares
- ❑ Investors have alleged that the number of small-cap stocks is low, but the share prices of some small-cap companies have increased several times due to manipulation ¹²

Reckitt Benckiser Suffers From Surge in Raw Material Price

- ❑ Reckitt Benckiser (BD) reported an **18%** fall in profit in H1
- ❑ Its profit stood at **BDT 23.94 crore**, lower from **BDT 29.31 crore** in the previous year
- ❑ Cost of goods sold rose **24%** in Apr-Jun
- ❑ Last year, the company made a profit of **BDT 80.81 crore** and paid the highest **1650%** cash dividend ¹³

BANK AND NBFI

IFC to Invest BDT 470 Crore in Brac Bank's Housing Bond

- ❑ The International Finance Corporation (IFC), an arm of the World Bank Group, will invest up to **BDT 470 crore** in the country's first-ever housing bond by Brac Bank
- ❑ In October last year, BSEC approved the issuance of the bond
- ❑ Approved size: **BDT 600 crore**
- ❑ Annual interest rate for IFC: **5.5%**
- ❑ Tenure: **5 years** ¹⁴



Ailing Stock Market Pulls Down NBFIs' Profit

- ❑ **Market scenario:**
 - **23** listed NBFIs
 - **8** trade below face value
 - Defaulted loans (Jan-Mar 2021): **BDT 13,016 crore**
 - Defaulted loans increased to (Jan-Mar 2021): **BDT 14,232 crore**
- ❑ **Reasons behind profit fall:**
 - Drop in income from stock investment
 - Low loan recovery amid pandemic slowdown
 - Fall in income from stock trading commission
 - Interest income declined due to tight liquidity ¹⁵

CORPORATE

Unilever Consumer Care Experiences Profit Boost

- ❑ Unilever Consumer Care Limited – has registered **58%** profit growth in the first half of 2022
- ❑ **4%** jump in sales
- ❑ Operational efficiency and corporate income tax rate reduction helped improve profit ¹⁶



BATA BANGLADESH Posts 16 Times Higher Profit in Q2'22

- ❑ The company earned a net profit of **BDT 26.54 crore**, up from **BDT 1.56 crore** a year ago
- ❑ Revenue grew by **45%** to **BDT 313.57 crore** from **BDT 217 crore** ¹⁷



RAK Ceramics to Invest in a Greenfield Tiles Plant

- ❑ RAK Ceramics (Bangladesh) Limited is going to invest **BDT 902 crore** to build a new tiles factory in Gazipur
 - ❑ Ceramic Tiles Market:
 - Companies: **30**
 - Yearly tiles consumption **BDT 4,600 crore**
 - Production capacity increased by **200%** in last decade
 - RAK holds **16.1%** in value size | **6%** in volume size ¹⁸



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