



Tobacco Industry Interference (TII) Monitoring Report

September 2023

Report Prepared
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Prepared by: WBB trust

Supported by: The Union

Summary:

A total 11 industry interferences were reported in September, 2023. Notable among these we identified that, BAT Bangladesh has donated around Tk. 18.41 to the Workers Welfare Foundation Fund operating under the Ministry of Labor and Employment. Daffodil International University organized the National HR Summit Shehzad Munim, managing director, BAT Bangladesh was guest.

With the technical assistance of the Union, WBB Trust has collected all the information and prepared a brief report about the interferences done by the tobacco companies.





Date	News and source	Evidence
TII on CSR		
03 September, 2023	<p>Daffodil International University organized the National HR Summit 2023 themed ‘HR Leadership for Smart Bangladesh 2041, Driving Ever-Changing Business through Innovation,’ at Daffodil Smart City, Savar in Dhaka on Saturday.</p> <p>ICT secretary Md Shamsul Arefin was present as chief guest at the inaugural ceremony, while Mohd Monirul Islam, additional secretary, SDG affairs, Prime Minister’s Office, Mohammad Nuruzzamn, Shehzad Munim, managing director, BAT Bangladesh.</p> <p>Link</p>	<p>National HR Summit held at DIU</p> <p><small>Staff Correspondent Published: 03.09.2023</small></p> 
11 September, 2023	<p>Bangladesh Bidi Workers Federation Daulatpur Thana branch made a human chain demand to demand three points, including stopping the production of fake bidi. They held this human chain program in front of the Allardarga Press Club of Daulatpur Upazila in Kushtia District. The Bidi workers presented three-point demands in the human chain. Their demands are to stop the production of fake bidis, stop bidis with fake band-rolls, and arrange six days a week for the workers.</p>	<p>নকল বিড়ি উৎপাদন বন্ধের দাবিতে দৌলতপুর বিড়ি শ্রমিকদের মানববন্ধন</p> <p><small>৪ মিনিটের মধ্যে</small></p> 

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	Link	
<p>12 September, 2023</p>	<p>Bangladesh Bidi Sramik Federation made a three-point demand, including a protest the Tk. 2,054 crore revenue waiver at the National Press Club. In a press conference moderated by Harik Hossain, Joint Secretary of the Bangladesh Bidi Workers Federation, Federation Executive President Amin Uddin (BSC) presented a three-point demand. Their demands are to ensure the recovery of Tk. 2,054 crore in revenue from BAT along with penalties, take action against the culprits through a proper investigation report, and stop low-grade cigarettes from foreign multinational companies to protect the bidi industry.</p>	<p>বিএসটি'র ২০৫৪ কোটি টাকা রাজস্ব মওজুফের প্রতিবন্ধে শংকর সম্মেলনা</p> <p>১১ সেপ্টেম্বর ১১:১৪ ১১:১৪ AM ৩৭৭ বিএসটি ১০৯৯ ১০৯৯০১১০১১</p> 
<p>16 September, 2023</p>	<p>Steve Poré is the Regional Marketing Director - Asia Pacific, Middle East & Africa (APMEA) at BAT. He is a distinguished figure with an illustrious career that has taken him from the captivating landscapes of New Zealand to bustling metropolises worldwide. This isn't just a standard corporate tale; it's a story of a global maestro unravelling the immense potential of Bangladesh and its youth BATB said.</p>	<p>Shaping Bangladesh's future leaders: Career map and advice for the youth from a trailblazer</p>  <p>Steve Poré is a distinguished figure with an illustrious career that has taken him from the captivating landscapes of New Zealand to bustling metropolises worldwide.</p>
<p>17 September, 2023</p>	<p>BAT Bangladesh has donated around Tk. 18.41 to the Workers Welfare Foundation Fund operating under the Ministry of Labor and Employment. A five-member BATB delegation handed over the cheque to State Minister for Labor and Employment Begum Monnujan Sufian at the Bangladesh Secretariat.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">BAT Bangladesh donates Tk 18.41cr to WFFF</p> <p>Business Desk its introduction as per the Bangladesh Workers Welfare Foundation Act. BAT Bangladesh has donated around Tk 18.41 crore (Tk 184,173,785 to be accurate) to the company has contributed a total of Tk 974,093,975.</p> <p>Peter, Senior Manager, External Relations, Anisat Zangir, Consultant Akbar Anwar Khan and Business Communications Manager Md Foad Bin Sajjad handed over the cheque to State Minister for Labour and Employment Begum Monnujan Sufian at the Bangladesh Secretariat on Wednesday. Secretary of the Ministry of Labour and Employment Md Ehsan-E-Elahi and the Director General of Bangladesh Workers Welfare Foundation were also present here. BAT Bangladesh has been</p> 
<p>18 September, 2023</p>	<p>Bohujatik Company-te Ponchash Bochhor (50 Years in Multinational Companies), an autobiographical book by BAT Bangladesh Chairman Golem Mainuddin that has highlighted his corporate experience and lifetime's memories, was launched in Dhaka on Saturday. Distinguished personalities from various professions, dignitaries and highly esteemed figures of society and</p>	<p>Book on BATB Chairman Golem Mainuddin launched</p> <p>Published: 15min; 18 September, 2023 at 12:00 AM</p> <p>Business Desk</p> 

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	<p>industries joined the event of unveiling of the book at the Police Plaza Concord, says a press release. Speaking on the occasion, Mr Shehzad Munim, Managing Director of BAT Bangladesh, expressed gratitude to the author for sharing his valuable experience that would enlighten corporate people, students and future generations.</p> <p>Link</p>	
<p>19 September 2023</p>	<p>Call for entries for Bangladesh's most prestigious Corporate Social Responsibility Awards: A Better Tomorrow™ CSR Awards organised by The Daily Star and CSR Window, Funded by BATB. This first-of-its-kind annual nationwide initiative aims to create dialogues for future development and sustainability solutions and recognize corporates for their innovative and world-class CSR initiatives.</p> <p>Link</p>	<p>The call for entries for the third edition of the A Better Tomorrow™ CSR Awards</p>  <p>The poster for the A Better Tomorrow CSR Awards 2023 features a dark blue background with a white and red graphic of a person climbing a ladder. Text on the poster includes 'A BETTER TOMORROW™ CSRAWARDS 2023', 'The Daily Star CSR Window', 'PROMOTING INITIATIVES FOR PROGRESS', 'JOIN THE BIGGEST CSR EVENT OF THE YEAR', and 'Nominate your CSR project at csrawardsbd.com'.</p>
<p>26 September 2023</p>	<p>Bangladesh Bidi Sramik Federation made a three-point demand, including a protest the Tk 2054 crore revenue waiver at the National Press Club. In a press conference moderated by Harik Hossain, Joint Secretary of the Bangladesh Bidi Workers Federation, Federation Executive President Amin Uddin (BSC) presented a three-point demand. Their demands are to ensure the recovery of Tk 2054 crore in revenue from BAT along with penalties, take action against the culprits through a proper investigation report, and stop low-grade cigarettes from foreign multinational companies to protect the bidi industry.</p> <p>Link</p>	 <p>The screenshot shows a news article in Bengali from the website 'বিশ্ব দিগন্ত' (Bishwa Diganta). The headline reads 'বিসিডি লেভেলের রাজস্ব ফাঁকি বন্ধের আহ্বান' (Call for ending tax evasion of BSC level). Below the headline, there is a logo for 'বিশ্ব দিগন্ত' (Bishwa Diganta) with a sun icon.</p>

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<p>19 August 2023</p>	<p>Paikgacha-Koira Member of Parliament Alhaj Md. Aktaruzzaman Babu inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of the first safe drinking water plant in Sholhalia village of Bagali Union of Koira Upazila in Khulna. The water plant was set up with the funding of the private sector Probaho (project of BATB)</p> <p>Link Link</p>	
<p>TII on Misliding</p>		
<p>23 September 2023</p>	<p>British media The Guardian said that Prime Minister Rishi Sunak is going to take steps to ban cigarettes in the UK to protect the next generation of the country from cigarettes. The smoking age could be raised under new laws to prevent the sale of cigarettes to individuals after a certain year. Prime Minister want to achieve ambition of becoming a smoke-free country by 2030 and therefore encourage more people to quit smoking. And this is why they already taken steps to reduce the rate of smoking. The spokesperson added that free vape kits will be provided to discourage smoking.</p> <p>Link Link</p>	<p>পরবর্তী প্রজন্মের জন্য ধূমপান নিষিদ্ধের পক্ষে স্বাধি সুনাক</p> <p>১৯ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০২৩</p> <p>৯৫৬</p> 
<p>TII on Others</p>		
<p>25 September 2023</p>	<p>British American Tobacco Bangladesh (BATBC) has decided to invest nearly Tk. 151 crore to construct a warehouse and set up ancillary facilities in its Savar factory. The company has decided to invest this huge amount in order to enhance its capacity and improve productivity.</p> <p>Link Link</p>	<p>BATBC to build Tk 151cr warehouse</p> 