

# Tobacco Industry Interference (TII) Monitoring Report

January 2022

**Report Prepared**

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## Summary:

A total of 22 industry interferences were reported in January, 2022. Notable among these we identified that, The National Board of Revenue (NBR) hosted an event where Shehzad Munim (MD, BATB) was invited to share his opinion on the Key Note Speech. on the other hand, The Task Force Committee cost maintained by Ad-Din and Supernova announcement published in JUKTI - Club of CSE, IUB Facebook page.

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
<b>TII on CSR</b>		
2 January 2022	BATB has won the Institute of Cost and Management Accountants of Bangladesh (ICMAB) Best Corporate Award 2020 under MNC Manufacturing Category.  <a href="#">Link</a>	
5 January 2022	BAT Bangladesh has earned the distinction of being the first company in the country to receive the prestigious Social Caring Pledge (SCP) Awards 2021 in the categories of "Green Excellence" and "ESG Investment Excellence."  <a href="#">Link</a> <a href="#">Link</a>	

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<p>12 January, 2022</p>	<p>A human chain campaign was held in front of Khulna Press Club organized by Khulna District Bidi Sramik Sangram Parishad Club point where bidi workers demand 5 points to protect bidi industry. The human chain was presided over by Abdus Salam Munshi, Convener of Khulna Region Bidi Sramik Sangram Parishad and conducted by Harik Hossain (Joint secretary, Bangladesh Bidi Sramik Federation). President of Bangladesh Bidi Sramik Federation named MK Bangali and Anwar Hossain (VP, Bangladesh Bidi Sramik Federation) were presented as the chief guest. Moreover, GS Abdur Rahman, Publicity Secretary Shamim Islam, Khulna region bidi workers leader Azad and others were presented as special guest.</p> <p><a href="#">Link</a> <a href="#">Link</a> <a href="#">Link</a></p>	 <p>শিল্প দখল দাবিতে খুলনায় বিড়ি শ্রমিকদের মানবশৃঙ্খল ১২ জানুয়ারি ২০২২ Published: 12 January 2022 at 4:42 PM</p>
<p>25 January 2022</p>	<p>The Task Force Committee meeting was held in the conference room of Upazila Executive Officer of Karimganj, Kishoreganj on implementation of Tobacco Control Act presided over by Upazila Executive Officer Taslima Nur Hossain. The meeting was attended by government and private officials of various departments, members of the Upazila Task Force Committee and individuals of the Tobacco Prevention Organizations, journalists and civil society representatives. The government logo along with Ad-Din's logo were printed on the Program Banner. According to reliable sources, they have plans to hold several such meetings in the area. The cost of organizing these meetings is maintained by Ad-Din.</p> <p>NB: Ad-Din is an organization affiliated with Akij Tobacco Company.</p> <p><a href="#">Link</a> <a href="#">Link</a></p>	
<p>27 January 2022</p>	<p>The National Board of Revenue hosted an event on 26th January 2022, to celebrate the International Customs Day 2022. The Agricultural Minister, Dr Mohammad Abdur Razzaque, the State Minister for Shipping Mr Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury and the FBCCI Chairman Mr Md. Jashim Uddin were present at the event along with other esteemed guests. Shehzad Munim (MD, BATB), was also invited to the event to share his opinion on the Key Note Speech.</p>	 <p>INTERNATIONAL CUSTOMS DAY 2022 EVENT HOSTED BY NATIONAL BOARD OF REVENUE</p>

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	<p><a href="#">Link</a> <a href="#">Link</a></p>	
<p>31 January 2022</p>	<p>Supernova is a platform to pave way for aspiring females in STEM, ensuring that they receive the right grooming in order to build themselves up for a fast-tracked career in a fast-paced industry. The program, led by senior British American Tobacco Global Careers managers, is designed to provide insightful mentoring sessions and learning opportunities to selected female talents from established experts in various STEM fields said BATB officials. This announcement published in JUKTI - Club of CSE, IUB Facebook page.</p> <p><a href="#">Link</a></p>	
<p><b>TII on Misleading</b></p>		
<p>12 January 2022</p>	<p>More than 20,000 children are depleted due to the poisonous bidi industry in Rangpur's Haragachi. Hiramba Kumar Roy (CS, Rangpur) said child bidi workers affected by tobacco were admitted frequently to the hospital. Observers also said that all the family members are now suffering from various diseases due to making bidi at home.</p> <p><a href="#">Link</a></p>	<p>বাড়িতে বাড়িতে বিড়ি তৈরি, বিষে নিঃশেষ ১০ সহস্রাধিক শিশু</p> <p><small>রংপুরের হারাগাচি এলাকায় কৃষিকর্মের বিপরীতে বিড়ি তৈরিতে অর্ধেক ১০ হাজারের বেশি শিশু জড়িত। স্বাস্থ্যঝুঁকি বাড়ীতে তৈরি বিড়িই কারখানার তুলনায় বেশি ক্ষতিকারক বলে মাসি মাসি উপস্থাপন করছেন স্বাস্থ্য কর্মীরা। একসময় অনেকটা কারখানার মতো শিশু জমক করলেও এখন ঘরে ঘর বিড়ি তৈরি করতে শুরু করেছেন।</small></p> 
<p><b>TII on Tax</b></p>		

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<p>09 January 2022</p>	<p>In Tangail, fake band-roll is being used in packets of Lucky, Mithu, Mishti, Siam, Miraj bidi. It has been alleged that the government has been deprived of huge amount of revenue by installing fake band-roll on each packet of these bidi in Tangail by managing various places including customs.</p> <p><a href="#">Link</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">রাজস্ব ফাঁকি বন্ধকই তরক</p> 
<p>10 January 2022</p>	<p>Chittagong Customs House seized fake cigarette band-rolls or tax stamps worth around Tk. 230 crore in two consignments of offset papers brought in from China by two Chittagong based shell companies. The customs authorities in an investigation found that the racket had earlier taken the release of 13 such consignments. According to customs officials, the entry of the stamps, usually used in cigarette packets, has caused the government to count a loss of at least Tk1,000 crore in revenue.</p> <p><a href="#">Link</a></p>	<p><b>Fake cigarette band-rolls smuggled to dodge Tk1,000 crore in tax</b></p> <p>The customs authorities in an investigation found that the racket had earlier taken the release of 13 such consignments</p> 
<p>13 January 2022</p>	<p>A RAB patrol team under Durgapur police station in Netrokona district recovered 318 kg raw material of Zarda (perfumed tobacco), 95 kg raw material of Gul (tobacco dentifrice) with powder sacks. The law enforcement agency arrested one person.</p> <p><a href="#">Link</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">শিশু পিঠান তামাক... ঢাকা, দারুতাল, দিল্লি ও পাটকাটা বৈদেশিক... ০১ জনকে গ্রেপ্তার করে গুলি ১৮০</p> 
<p>15 January 2022</p>	<p>Fraud gangs are releasing fake band-rolls from abroad and the government is losing hundreds of crores money every year due to illegal band-roll. Chattogram Customs has recently seized two consignments of counterfeit band-roll worth Tk. 250 crores. The fraud gangs are being launched in the market mainly by using band-roll multiple times through fraud and importing fake band-roll from abroad.</p> <p><a href="#">Link</a></p>	<p><b>বিশেষ থেকে জানা যাচ্ছে যে আমদানি করে বাজারে ছাড়তে আনিয়াত ছক</b></p>  <p>বিশেষ থেকে জানা যাচ্ছে যে আমদানি করে বাজারে ছাড়তে আনিয়াত ছক... এটি তথ্যের সাথে... আমদানি করে বাজারে ছাড়তে আনিয়াত ছক... আমদানি করে বাজারে ছাড়তে আনিয়াত ছক...</p>

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<p>19 January 2022</p>	<p>A mobile court initiated by Meherpur Sadar Upazila Health Department and led by Upazila Sanitary Inspector Tariqul Islam, from Suryadoy Enterprise and from Parvez store of Meherpur, illegal Gani and Biswas Gul (tobacco-dentifrice) and Shova Zarda (perfumed tobacco) were seized.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#">Link</a></p>	
<p>22 January, 2022</p>	<p>For a long time, syndicates are using bidi with fake band-roll to evade crores of money in revenue. No action of the concerned ministry is visible in this regard. By putting fake band-roll on the bidi packets of the fake company in different markets of North Bengal, especially in Dinajpur and Rangpur, syndicates making crores of money every year. Similarly, the picture of bidi industry is similar all over the country.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#">Link</a></p>	
<p>31 January, 2022</p>	<p>A Mobile court led by Shubh Debnath, Executive Magistrate Assistant Commissioner (Land) at Singha Bazar in Durgapur, Rajshahia, sized revenue evaded 10,500 fake derby cigarettes worth Tk.40,897 and fined Tk. 10,000 a man named Mamunur Rashid (27) and arrested him for selling fake cigarettes.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#">Link</a></p>	
<b>TII on Smuggling</b>		
<p>14 January 2022</p>	<p>An operation led by Rapid Action Battalion (RAB)-15, 95 cartons of revenue evaded foreign cigarettes (19,000) recovered at Naikhyangchhari's Ghumdhum area in Bandarban and arrested one person.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#">Link</a></p>	






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<p>24 January 2022</p>	<p>National Board of Revenue (NBR) Chairman Abu Hena Md. Rahmatul Munim, held an emergency meeting with the VAT commissioners to stop the use of fake band-roll where he directed to strictly monitor the activities of the cigarette companies in production. The meeting was held in the conference room of the organization.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><a href="#">Link</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>বড় দুই চালান ধরা পড়ায় সক্রিয় এনবিআর নকল ব্যান্ডরলের বিরুদ্ধে শিগগিরই অভিযান</b></p> 
<b>Others</b>		
<p>1 January 2022</p>	<p>The market capitalization of British American Tobacco Bangladesh Company (BATBC) Limited, a multinational company listed on the stock exchange, has increased significantly in the outgoing year. Among the top companies in terms of market capitalization, the tobacco sector company has increased its capital the most last year. Compared to the previous year, the market capitalization of the company has increased by about 66 percent in the year just ended.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><a href="#">Link</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>এক বছরে বিএটিবি'র বায়ার মূল্যেড়ে হয়ে ৬৬%</b></p> 
<p>10 January 2022</p>	<p>The country's capital market held up for six consecutive working days. However, the index fell again on the first day of the week. Other companies including British American Tobacco Bangladesh Company (BATBC) have contributed the most to the fall of the index.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><a href="#">Link</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>বিনিয়োগকারীদের অপেক্ষাধন কমেছে ঢানা ছয় কার্যদিবস পর সূচকে ফের পতন</b></p>
<p>13 January 2022</p>	<p>Tobacco is being cultivated in almost all the sub-districts of Bandarban. As a result, soil fertility is being lost and the environment is being severely damaged. In addition, according to doctors, the human body is at risk of various health risks, including cancer, due to tobacco use. Despite the administration's various campaigns against tobacco cultivation, public is disappointed that no action has been taken.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><a href="#">Link</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>তথাকথিত অর্থকরী ফসল চাষে ঝুঁকিতে জন স্বাস্থ্য ও ফসলী জমি</b></p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>বান্দরবান</b></p>

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13 January 2022	<p>As it is more profitable than other crops, tobacco cultivation is increasing in Meherpur every year. The public is at health risk. Shafiqul Islam, tobacco farmer in Gangni upazila of Meherpur district, said that although other crops are produced in the area, farmers have had to count losses on various crops over the last few years. But don't have to count the losses in tobacco cultivation. As there is more opportunity for profit, farmers are giving up other crops and becoming interested in tobacco cultivation.</p> <p><a href="#">Link</a></p>	<p>মেহেরপুরে বাড়ছে তামাকের চাষ। বাছা ঝাঁকতে জনসাধারণ</p> <p>প্রকাশিত: বুধবার ১৫ জানুয়ারি ২০২২</p> 
27 January 2022	<p>Tobacco cultivation is being carried out in the land adjacent to the school, around the homestead in Manikganj, due to more facilities for tobacco cultivation and assurance of sale at a better price. As a result, the students, including the common people, are being affected by various diseases. People are at health risk.</p> <p><a href="#">Link</a></p>	<p>মানিকগঞ্জের লোকালয়ে তামাক চাষ, বাড়ছে স্বাস্থ্যঝুঁকি</p> <p>১৫ জানুয়ারি ২০২২</p> 
29 January 2022	<p>Harmful tobacco cultivation is increasing day by day in Kendua upazila of Netrokona due to high yield on land and high market price. Many farmers are unaware about bad effects of tobacco cultivation. As a result, many farmers are focusing on tobacco cultivation with health risk.</p> <p><a href="#">Link</a></p> <p><a href="#">Link</a></p>	<p>নেত্রকোণার কেন্দুয়া উপজেলায় তামাক চাষ বাড়ছে</p> <p>১৫ জানুয়ারি ২০২২</p> 