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## **Embezzlement by former Managing Director of ClickHouse Solutions Ltd (local B2B partner) in Bangladesh**

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Reference is made to the previous report dated 31 October 2022 regarding suspicions of embezzlement on a grant to a joint venture company titled Click House Solutions Ltd., to implement the project “Production of 3D Solutions in Bangladesh.”. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (MFA) granted DKK 1,117,024 and disbursed DKK 1,117,022 for the period 2008-2014 under the DANIDA Business-to-Business (B2B) Programme administered by the Danish Embassy in Dhaka. The programme aimed to promote private sector partnerships between Danish and Bangladeshi enterprises, facilitating technology transfer, capacity development, and sustainable business collaboration.

The suspicion arose in May 2014 when the MFA was notified that Danish trainers had only been partly paid for their training. Forged payment vouchers were discovered, revealing non-payment to Danish trainers under the B2B grant. In 2014, the then suspect closed down the operation of the company without notifying the embassy. The suspected misappropriation amounts to DKK 142,632.

Upon discovery of the irregularity, the Embassy initiated internal verification of project expenditures and correspondence with the implementing partner through forensic audit using an external auditor. Two formal claim letters were issued to the suspect between March 2016 and January 2017, seeking repayment of the misappropriated amount of DKK 142,632. As no restitution occurred, the Embassy lodged a criminal complaint before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Court, Dhaka, which proceeded ex parte due to the accused’s absconding. Following investigation and trial, the Court acquitted the accused on 23 December 2024 due to insufficient evidence.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs thus regards the case as closed with a loss of Danish funds amounting to DKK 142,632.