

# RISKCHECK

August 2021

## LATEST NEWS ON OPERATIONAL RISK

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# OPERATIONAL RISK NEWS

## **Banks asked to meet home loan target or face penalty**

*Jul 07<sup>th</sup>, 2021 -*

KARACHI: The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) has decided to impose penalty on banks if they fail to meet the mandatory targets for the number of houses and disbursement, said a circular issued on Tuesday.....

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## **NAB cell to counter terror financing, money laundering**

*Jul 05<sup>th</sup>, 2021 -*

ISLAMABAD: The National Accountability Bureau (NAB) has established the Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism (AML&CFT) cell to check financial crimes and illegal transfer of resources.....

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## **Rs25 bn money laundering probe: FIA seeks money trail from Hamza**

*Jul 04<sup>th</sup>, 2021 -*

LAHORE: The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) has issued a show cause notice to the Opposition Leader in the Punjab Assembly Hamza Shehbaz, directing him to provide money trail in a Rs25 billion alleged money laundering.....

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## **World Bank holds release of \$400m**

*Jul 09<sup>th</sup>, 2021 -*

ISLAMABAD: The World Bank has stopped the disbursement of a \$400 million loan that Pakistan secured last month to build foreign exchange reserves but could not implement all the agreed conditions.....

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## **Tax dilemma in realty sector**

*Jul 07<sup>th</sup>, 2021 -*

ISLAMABAD: The government's compromises with real estate sector and tax authorities' failure to take action against over 3,400 housing societies that remain outside the tax net are increasing the share of black money in the country and widening the tax gap.....

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## **PM Imran lauds FBR for 'historic' tax collection**

*Jul 02<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 -*

ISLAMABAD – Prime Minister Imran Khan Friday lauded the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) for collecting "historic level of tax revenues" during the outgoing fiscal year.....

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## **Entity ratings of Meezan Bank upgraded to AAA/A-1+**

*Jul 02<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 -*

KARACHI: VIS Credit Rating Company Limited has upgraded the entity ratings of Meezan Bank Limited ('MEBL' or 'the Bank') to 'AAA/A-1+' (Triple A/ A-One Plus) from 'AA+/A-1+' (Double A Plus/ A-One Plus).....

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## **\$1bn takes SBP reserves to five-year high**

*Jul 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 -*

KARACHI: The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) has received \$1 billion against the issuance of Eurobonds which took the foreign exchange reserves of the central bank to a five-year high of \$18.2bn.....

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## **Jan-June 2021: Banking Mohtasib disposes of 14,910 complaints**

*Jul 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 -*

KARACHI: The Banking Mohtasib Pakistan has provided monetary relief of Rs 305.5 million to the banking customers by disposing of 14,910 complaints during the first half (January to June) of the current calendar year, 2021.....

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# OPERATIONAL RISK NEWS

## **Pakistan's banking profitability to remain subdued in 2021: Fitch**

Jul 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 -

Fitch Solutions expects that Pakistan's banking profitability will remain subdued in 2021 on rising loan loss provisioning as asset quality deteriorates and weak net interest margins, although strong credit growth should offset some of the weakness..... [Read full story](#)

## **Pakistan establishes AML/CTF unit**

Jul 07<sup>th</sup>, 2021 -

The National Accountability Bureau, Pakistan's anti-corruption watchdog, has set up an anti-money laundering and terror financing team (AML/CTF) to check financial crimes and illegal transfer of resources..... [Read full story](#)

## **Suspect shot dead in encounter as police foil bank robbery in Karachi's Korangi area**

Jul 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 -

KARACHI: A suspected robber was shot dead in an encounter in Korangi on Thursday as the police foiled a bank robbery. His three accomplices, including one injured, escaped through the back gate of the bank branch..... [Read full story](#)

## **China frees up \$154bn for banks**

Jul 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021 -

BEIJING: China will cut the amount of cash that banks must hold as reserves, releasing around 1 trillion yuan (\$154.19 billion) in long-term liquidity to underpin its post-Covid economic recovery that is starting to lose momentum..... [Read full story](#)

## **Mastercard banned from issuing new cards in India**

Jul 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 -

MUMBAI: India's central bank Wednesday banned global payments giant Mastercard from adding new customers starting next week, in an escalation of a long-standing dispute on local data storage rules..... [Read full story](#)

## **New Zealand bank to pay penalty for money-laundering failures**

Jul 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 -

The TSB in New Zealand has agreed to pay NZ\$3.85m (US\$2.67m, €2.27m) in penalties after acknowledging a failure to comply with anti-money laundering rules..... [Read full story](#)

## **Woman joins former partner in pleading guilty to money laundering**

Jul 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 -

A Dublin woman has joined her former partner in pleading guilty at the Special Criminal Court to laundering money believed to be the proceeds of criminal activity..... [Read full story](#)

## **Top Turkish Bank Suffers System Outage, Sees No Cyber Attack**

Jul 07<sup>th</sup>, 2021 -

Akbank TAS, Turkey's second-largest lender by market value, said it will gradually restore operations after suffering widespread system outages since early Tuesday, which prompted it to accept a delay in payments owed by customers..... [Read full story](#)

## **Britain carves out exemption for gold clearing banks from Basel III rule**

Jul 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021 -

LONDON: Banks clearing gold trades in London can apply for an exemption from tighter capital rules due in January 2022, a British regulator said on Friday, removing what some said was a threat to the functioning of the market..... [Read full story](#)

# OPERATIONAL RISK NEWS

## **EU to propose new body to tackle dirty money, documents say**

*Jul 08<sup>th</sup>, 2021 -*

The European Union will propose a new agency to crack down on money laundering and new transparency rules for transfers of crypto-assets,..... [Read full story](#)

## **Cash machine thief jailed after stealing £23,000 from Nottingham ATMs**

*Jul 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021 -*

A prolific thief who stole over £23,000 by tampering with cash machines across Nottinghamshire has been jailed. Marius Raducan installed cash trapping devices inside cashpoints to prevent the machines dispensing customers' cash..... [Read full story](#)

## **Former CFO Pleads Guilty to Embezzling over \$1.6 Million**

*Jul 06<sup>th</sup>, 2021 -*

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Christopher Firl, 51, of Fairfield, pleaded guilty today to one count of wire fraud, Acting U.S. Attorney Phillip A. Talbert announced..... [Read full story](#)

## **Two O.C. Men Agree to Plead Guilty to Securities Fraud Charge for Swindling Investors Through \$1.8 Million Cryptocurrency Offering**

*Jul 02<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 -*

Two Orange County men were charged today with conning thousands of investors into purchasing a cryptocurrency that purportedly provided exclusive access to a trading program that they falsely claimed was profitable..... [Read full story](#)

## **Caretaker of Senior Couple Charged with Stealing Hundreds of Thousand from Couple's Bank Accounts**

*Jul 02<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 -* A federal indictment unsealed yesterday in the Southern District of Florida charges the caretaker of two seniors with accessing to their bank accounts to steal nearly \$300,000.....

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## **Trump organization charged with fraud and tax crimes**

*Jul 02<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 -*

The Trump Organization, the real estate business that catapulted Donald Trump to tabloid fame, television riches and ultimately the White House, was charged Thursday with running a 15-year scheme..... [Read full story](#)

## **Anti-Money Laundering Issues, Robinhood Crypto To Pay Fine**

*Jul 08<sup>th</sup>, 2021 -*

Anti-Money Laundering Issues Robinhood Crypto to Pay \$15M fine Over Security to resolve a legal dispute with NYDFS (New York State Department of Financial Services) over charges related to crypto unit's handling of cybersecurity and anti-money laundering..... [Read full story](#)

## **Vandergrift man charged in connection with Apollo Trust Bank robbery**

*Jul 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 -*

Police have released details concerning the robbery of the Apollo Trust Bank in North Apollo on Monday and the arrest of Vandergrift man charged with the crime..... [Read full story](#)

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## RISKCHECK

RiskCheck Operational Risk newsletter is published monthly. It keeps you abreast with the latest news, events and external risk exposures which could potentially impact your organization. Both national as well as international potentially high risk events are covered in this newsletter.

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