

Chapter 6

Conclusion: Into the Future





CONCLUSION: INTO THE FUTURE

In its 110 years history, the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) has undergone numerous changes and overcome innumerable vicissitudes as it traversed the twentieth century. However, it has entered the new century and millennium as a vibrant organization, eager to build on the experience it has accumulated in its evolutionary phase, and poised not only to assist its members proactively in their business dealings but also to contribute positively to the trade and commerce of the nation in every possible way.

When MCCI began its journey in Narayanganj, as the Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce in 1904, it was an organization consisting of British business people, focused almost entirely on the trading of one commodity, jute. Its second phase, as the Dhaka-Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce, lasted only from 1950 to 1952 and not much could be claimed for its workings at that time, for two years is never enough to leave a mark in any sphere. The third phase of MCCI's evolution, when it became the Dacca-Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce and Industry, although once again brief (1952-59), marked a decisive alteration in the Chamber's orientation as well as membership, as local business people now began to take an active part in it and as the business interests of its members began to diversify significantly. The fourth phase was in every way momentous, for between 1959 and 1979, East Pakistan had become Bangladesh, and the political process that led to the liberation of the country in 1971 led to intrinsic changes in the membership of the Chamber as well as the trade and business activities of its members. And from 1979 onwards, the Chamber has gone from strength to strength; it is now accustomed to play the role of the premier organization of its type of a country whose economy has been expanding significantly and whose business interests now have truly global dimensions.

This book has attempted to present the rich history of MCCI and trace its development from a fledgling body to a sizable organization that has now become a considerable presence in the region. But, the Chamber is determined to build on the reputation it has acquired and forge ahead in the new millennium when the demands of globalization and

the advent of new forms of businesses and technological innovations are transforming the business environment everywhere rapidly. There are also new problems that MCCI and its members are trying to solve together or in league with other agencies and organizations, such as environmental degradation. In the new millennium, MCCI is also trying to disseminate the philosophy of corporate social responsibility in a much more systematic and comprehensive manner than ever before. Certainly, this book has tried to reflect such preoccupations of the Chamber in its current phase.

MCCI can, however, confidently look forward to a future in which it will continue to play a leading role in contributing to business affairs of the country and in pioneering paths to prosperity and development in alliance with governmental and non-governmental agencies working for a Bangladesh dedicated to realizing the United Nations' millennial goals. The Chamber is determined to utilize its resources for proactively promoting trade and industry in the region. It is also bent on continuing to be an effective channel of communication between the country's business community and the government.

This book, published on the anniversary of the 110 years of MCCI's existence, is thus an occasion for looking back and reflecting on the circumstances of the birth and growth of the chamber. It will, hopefully, allow its readers to consider the achievements of the Chamber to date and will introduce them to the rich tradition to which its members are heirs. Hopefully, too, it will inspire members to think of future roads to be taken and heights to be scaled so that MCCI can continue to play a lead role in contributing to business in Bangladesh and in promoting regional and international business alliances in the coming decades of the new millennium.

This book is by no means an exhaustive record of the Chamber's evolution and activities over the decades. A fuller work could surely have been contemplated based on a more thorough reading of existing historical documents and reports of the Chamber, more access to other archival material stored in libraries in Britain and India, and more extensive interviews taken with Chamber personalities still living. But perhaps the preceding pages have allowed readers more than a glimpse of the varied and essential features of the Chamber's evolution and have given them a better understanding and appreciation of the Chamber's progress than can be found in any other source at present. No doubt a more substantial history of the Chamber is still to be written; all we can hope is that this work will be seen as a notable attempt at recording the main phases and features of MCCI's history and a work worthy of an organization observing its 110th anniversary.

Selected Events/Activities (1904-2014)

1904

- The establishment of the Chamber, consisting of sixteen members, including the President, Vice-President and Honorary Secretary.

1913

- The Honorary Secretary of NCC submits opinion on 'A Bill to Amend the Indian Companies Act, 1913', to the Under Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General Department, on August 26, 1913.

1917

- Mr AL Godden (Honorary Secretary of NCC) gives an opinion on 'Proposal to Suppress the Adulteration of Indian Produce before Export' to the Under Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Commerce Department, on October 17, 1917.

1921

- The Chamber unanimously favors the imperial preference on the 'Tariff Policy of the Government of India Trade after the War, Free Trade System, Protection, Imperial Preference, etc.' through a letter to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Commerce Department, November 19, 1921.

1924

- NCC participates in the formation of 'The Indian Trade Unions Bill 1924', forwarding its opinion to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Commerce Department, November 12, 1924.
- Mr RN Story (Honorary Secretary of NCC) comments on 'Periods of Wage Payment Bill' to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Commerce Department, on November 25, 1924.

1930

- The Chamber participates in the preparation of the 'The Draft Indian Partnership Bill', forwarding the committee meeting decisions to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Commerce Department. It is represented by Mr JH Kirkland (Honorary Secretary of NCC), March 1, 1930.

1940

- The Chamber contributes to the passing of 'The Bengal Shops and Establishments Bill, 1939'. Mr H Williams, the Honorary Secretary of NCC, communicates the Chamber's views to the Joint Secretary, Government of Bengal, Commerce and Labour Department, on January 6, 1940.

1949

- Memorandum and Articles of Association adopted by special resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting held on 11 April, 1949.
- Mr Graham, President of the Associated Chambers of Commerce of Pakistan, visits NCC and meets committee members.

1950

- NCC sends some suggestions to Associated Chambers of Commerce of Pakistan for adoption.
- NCC takes an initiative to open a Dacca City Office in a committee meeting held on 4 April.
- 'Dacca' was included in the altered name of the Chamber at an Extraordinary General Meeting held on 12 May.

1952

- 'Industry' is included in the name of the Chamber on 15 July at an Extraordinary General Meeting and the committee approves 'Dacca-Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce and Industry' as the new name; believing that the industrialization of East Pakistan will make it of increasing importance.

1953

- Begum Viqarun Nisa Noon, wife of His Excellency, the Governor of East Bengal, addresses the Chamber on 3 February. The Chamber President is nominated to serve on the Governing Body of the Viqarun Nisa Noon School. The Chamber donates Rs 61,750 to the school.
- The Chamber takes an initiative on 10 March regarding the improvement of telegraphic communication between East Pakistan and United States and approves the scheme of a radio link through Manila.

- The Chamber, in its committee meeting held on 22 June, decides to publish a monthly bulletin from July 1953. The Chamber also considers bringing out a commercial periodical in the future.
- The Chamber is invited by the Chancellor of the University of Dhaka to nominate a member to the Court of the University.

1954

- The Honorable Prime Minister is present at the Annual General Meeting on 8 January and gives an address.
- His Excellency Sir Gilbert Laithwaite, High Commissioner for the United Kingdom in Pakistan, visits the Chamber and has a meeting with committee members (14-15 January).
- The Chamber is requested, in March 1954, by the London Chamber of Commerce to act as an examining authority in the eastern part of Bengal. The proposal is accepted by the Chamber and a supervisory committee is appointed for this purpose.

1955

- United States Trade Mission visits DNCCI on 21 August.
- The Chamber donates Rs 10,750 to the Trade Union Workers Training Scheme, introduced by the Government of East Bengal on 11 October.
- The 6th All Pakistan Economic Conference is held in Chittagong from 26-30 December. The Chamber participates and contributes actively to proceedings.

1956

- Sir Alexander Symon, High Commissioner for United Kingdom, visits the Chamber and meets Committee members on 16 January.
- Reception to the Governor General of Pakistan, Major General Iskander Mirza and Begum Mirza on 24 January.
- AK Fazlul Haque, Governor of East Pakistan, attends the AGM of DNCCI on 6 April as the Chief Guest and delivers a speech.
- Mr Mohammad Ali, Prime Minister of Pakistan, delivers a speech to members of DNCCI on 30 April.

- Sir Alexander Symon, High Commissioner for United Kingdom, visits the Chamber on 16 January and meets committee members.

1957

- Mr Haas, French Trade Counsellor in Pakistan (27 March), and Mr M Kadir, Governor of the State Bank of Pakistan (7 January), visit the Chamber and interact with members.
- Dr Hernan Romero, ILO Expert on Social Security, visits DNCCI on 20 December.

1958

- Mr RF Kinsey and Mr DN Twyford of the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation, UK visit DNCCI on 23 January.
- The Chamber committee has a discussion meeting Mr Eugene Braderman, Director of International Trade, US Department of Commerce, USA on 30 January.
- AK Fazlul Haque, Governor of East Pakistan, attends the 53rd AGM of DNCCI on 4 March as Chief Guest and delivers a speech.
- Members of the World Bank's Economic Mission, headed by Mr G Neil Perry, visit the Chamber on 3 June.
- The 54th AGM is held on 9 December in the Chamber Office. Mr Zakir Husain, Governor of East Pakistan, is present as the Chief Guest.
- An Extraordinary General Meeting is held, on re-organization of the Chamber, on 20 December.
- Mr Zulfiquar Ali Bhutto, Minister for Commerce of the Government of Pakistan, meets the Chamber committee on 26 December.

1959

- The government renames and reorganizes the Chamber as the 'Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce and Industry' by issuing a letter and license on 20 March which is approved unanimously in an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Chamber held on 11 August.

1960

- Members of the US Trade Mission visit the Chamber on 11 February and meet the Chamber Committee.
- The Chamber decides on 23 May to donate the Henderson Road land to the Naryanganj Education Society with the stipulation that the Society will change its name to the 'Naryanganj Chamber Education Society' and that the Chamber will have a certain number of representatives on the Board of Directors.

1961

- The Chamber participates in the Asian Trade Seminar held in Karachi for 6 days from 28 December 1961 to 2 January 1962.
- Under pressure from the Chamber, the Minister for Commerce, on 14 September, finally announces 34 percent reduction in the export duty on tea.

1962

- NCCI and DCCI reach an agreement in regard to the jurisdiction of these two Chambers as follows: 1. Narayanganj Chamber: Bhairab, Tongi, Faridpur and Goalundo; 2. Dacca Chamber: Tangail and Tejgaon.
- Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) asks NCCI on 23 February to nominate a delegate to the 46th session of the ILO Conference.
- The Chamber Committee meets French team of bankers and industrialists on 15 March.
- The Chamber protests the newly framed rules on 'Trade Organization Ordinance 1961' and resolves accordingly at a committee meeting held on 7 June.
- NCCI receives an invitation from the Chicago Chamber of Commerce on 12 April and representatives attend the Chicago International Trade Fair from 25 July to 12 August.

1963

- Abdul Monem Khan, Governor of East Pakistan, joins the AGM of the Chamber held on 31 January as the Chief Guest.
- NCCI participates in the convention of the All Pakistan Chamber of Commerce held on 24 September and the All Pakistan Exporter's Convention held on 16 November.

- The Chamber sanctions a donation on 10 October to the Economics Department of Dhaka University for organizing an exhibition on the Economic Development of Pakistan.
- An Extraordinary General Meeting is held and the Articles of Association of NCCI is amended on 15 October.

1964

- An important meeting is held on 5 March between the Federation of British Industries Group led by Mr FJE Tearle and the NCCI Committee.
- An Italian Trade delegation visits the Chamber on 16 July and has a joint meeting with NCCI and the Pakistan Jute Association.

1965

- The Chamber forwards concrete suggestions on taxation policy to the Ministry of Finance on 11 March.
- Cyclone-affected employees of the NCCI and member firms are given one month's gross salary for quick recovery.
- The President of Pakistan and the Governor of the East Pakistan call upon the business community on 18 August to help in the war effort. NCCI handles the situation tactically and says that this matter should be taken up by the zonal committee of the Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI).
- NCCI takes an initiative on 25 November to set up a proper Business Administration Institute in University of Dhaka after conducting a meeting with Dr Den Orescanin, Advisor of the Institute.

1966

- Major General HWG Wijeyekoon, Ceylonese High Commissioner in Pakistan, visits the Chamber on 17 November.

1967

- Michael Montague and Ian F Trevor, Chairman and Executive Secretary of the British National Export Council's Asia Committee visit NCCI on 16 October and meet the Chamber committee.
- NCCI purchases Al-Bawany Chamber Building (122/124, Motijheel, Dhaka) on 1 November and sets up the new office of the Chamber.

- NCCI sells its old building (87/88, Motijheel, Dhaka) to the Pakistan Red Cross Society for Rs 6 lakh 50 thousand on 2 November.
- Chinese Trade Delegation and German Economic Mission come to the Chamber office and have meetings on 31 October and 17 November.
- In order to raise money to purchase 'Al-Bawany Chamber' in Dacca, the Chamber building in Narayanganj is sold to the Pakistan Jute Association in November for Rs 6 lakhs.

1968

- The Chamber receives and holds meetings with the US Trade and Investment Mission (19 February), the Spanish Trade Delegation (20 March) and the Italian Trade Delegation (23 March).

1970

- Vice-Admiral SM Ahsan, Governor of East Pakistan, joins the second part of the 65th AGM held on 6 May and delivers his speech at Hotel Inter-Continental.
- 8 delegates from NCCI join the Businessmen's Convention in Dacca in July and project the Chamber's point of view.

1971

- In a meeting, held on 12 March, the Chamber decides to break from its tradition of non-involvement in political movement of any kind. Deeming the current movement a people's one, the Chamber Committee unanimously agrees to get involved with it under the leadership of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.
- The Chamber decides in a committee meeting on 22 December to congratulate the Mukti Bahini and offer thanks for its services towards the freedom of the country. The meeting demands immediate release of the Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.
- The Committee decides that the Chamber pledge its whole-hearted support to the government in its task of building a prosperous country free from exploitations.
- NCCI condemns the inhuman massacre of intellectuals and demands an enquiry into the matter in a committee meeting held on 22 December.

1972

- In a committee meeting held on 4 February the Chamber decides to arrange a tea party instead of their regular annual dinner party in keeping with the need for austerity.

- An Extraordinary General Meeting is held and the Articles of Association of NCCI are amended on 18 March.
- Mr MR Siddiqi, Minister for Trade and Commerce, delivers a speech at the AGM held on 23 March.

1974

- The Chamber Committee decides at meetings on 10 January and 18 December that no function will be organized and that no Chief Guest will henceforth be invited to AGMs.
- NCCI meets the Minister for Industries to present its views on measures needed to be taken for the improvement of investment in the country.

1975

- The Chamber Committee submits proposals for Import and Export Policies for the July-December 1975 shipping period and for the 1975-76 financial years, respectively.
- The Committee discusses the question of affiliation of the Chamber with the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry and decides to join the Federation.
- NCCI successfully opposes a proposal on the formation of a Federation of Bangladesh Export Organisation by the Ministry of Commerce.

1976

- The 71st AGM is held on 17 February and Dr MN Huda, member of the Advisory Council to the President of Bangladesh and Chief Martial Law Administrator, joins the annual dinner, which is followed by the AGM.
- The Chamber President informs the committee on 30 June that the Ministry of Commerce, Government of Bangladesh, had asked the Chamber to arrange a meeting with the Trade Delegation from Pakistan.
- President of the NCCI is included in the Committee on New Design and Reconstruction of Shaheed Minar on 9 September.
- The Chamber is invited to be part of a delegation to Malaysia, Singapore, Hong Kong and Japan to invite foreign investors to Bangladesh.
- The NCCI President has a meeting with the Chief Martial Law Administrator held on 8 December.

1977

- The Chamber committee meets a Belgian Delegation of Industrialists on 17 January.
- An Extraordinary General Meeting is held and the Articles of Association of NCCI are amended on 24 March.
- The Chamber Committee has a meeting on 10 May with Mr Claude Vidalain, Charge De Mission, French External Trade Council.
- Japanese Trade Delegation visits NCCI.
- Two delegates from the NCCI join a Six-Week International Training Course on 'Export Development for Private Businessmen' in Canberra (Australia) from 1 November to 14 December.

1978

- Mr Jamal Uddin Ahmed, Member of the President's Council of Advisors, in-charge of the Ministry of Industries, delivers a speech at the Chamber's luncheon on 2 March in reply to the address by the Chamber President, Mr Anis ud Dowla.
- Economic Mission of Italian Traders and Industrialists and 10-Member Nepalese Trade Delegation visit NCCI and have meetings with the Chamber committee on 7 February and 27 March respectively. A mission from Investment Promotion Services, Switzerland is received by the Chamber.
- The Chamber continues to conduct examinations of the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry held during the months of December (1977) and May (1978) respectively.
- At the request of the Planning Commission, Government of Bangladesh, a seminar on the Two-Year Plan is held at the Chamber Building on 20 June to reflect the views of trade and industry to the draft plan. NCCI presents 3 papers on the issue at the meeting.

1979

- NCCI celebrates the Diamond Jubilee of the Chamber (1904-1979) and publishes an Annual Report (1978-79) with 11 messages from past presidents, dignitaries as well as 3 special articles. Supplements are published in four local dailies.
- The Chamber Committee finalizes its suggestions for the Import Policy for 1979-80 which are forwarded for consideration to the Ministry of Commerce. Most of the suggestions are accepted by the government.

- Mr Saifur Rahman, Minister for Commerce of Government of Bangladesh, delivers a speech in reply to the address by the President of NCCI at the Diamond Jubilee Celebration on 20 June.
- The National Board of Revenue approves the Narayanganj Chamber Benevolent and Scholarship Fund on 3 July.
- Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dacca (MCCI), emerges replacing NCCI the requirements of government regulations. This change is approved at an Extraordinary General Meeting held on 20 December.

1980

- MCCI members attend the Third General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) held in New Delhi from 21 January to 8 February and a member presents a paper on 'Industrialisation in the 1980s and Beyond: Its Logic and Policies'. The Chamber hands over a copy of the paper to the Deputy Prime Minister in-charge of the Ministry of Industries, Government of Bangladesh.
- Mr Jamal Uddin Ahmad, Deputy Prime Minister in-charge of the Ministry of Industries, Government of Bangladesh, delivers a speech at the Annual Dinner on the occasion of the 75th AGM of the Chamber on 15 March.
- The Chamber committee has a series of meetings with Dr WJ Rijpma, Director, CBI, Rotterdam, The Netherlands on 4 February; the Review Mission of the International Trade Centre, Geneva and the Swedish International Development Agency on 23 October; and Mr EJ Westnedge, Director of British Executive Service Overseas (BESO) and others on 24 November.

1981

- Representatives of the British and South Asian Trade Association, London and President of the Fuji Economic Planning Corporation of Japan and other representatives visit MCCI on 29 January and 14 April respectively.
- An Extraordinary General Meeting is held and Articles of Association of MCCI are amended by a special resolution on 7 February.
- Justice A Sattar, Vice President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, delivers a speech at the Annual Dinner on the occasion of the 76th AGM of the Chamber on 2 April.
- Two important delegations come to the Chamber this year – one an eight-member delegation of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and

Industry and the other a delegation of the Association of Indian Engineering Industry. Both meetings prove mutually fruitful.

- Two-member and Five-member World Bank Teams have meetings with the Chamber Committee on 15 October and 23 October respectively.
- MCCI submits a paper on 'Credit Policy' to Bangladesh Bank.

1982

- The Chamber has meetings with Ministers for Industries, Finance and Planning and recommends denationalization of jute and textile, submitting a written paper on 'Nationalisation of Industries in Bangladesh – A Review of the Experiment: A Case for Denationalisation'.
- MCCI congratulates the government for announcing a liberal industrial policy. The committee also examines the newly promulgated Ordinance – Drugs (Control) Ordinance, 1982 which prohibited manufacture and import of a large number of pharmaceutical products.
- Mr AJ Cliff, Chief of the Bangladesh Division of the World Bank and the World Bank Mission, visits MCCI on 7 October.

1983

- The Chamber Committee meets Dr HA Wuttke, the Executive Vice-President of International Finance Corporation, an affiliate of the World Bank and his team, in the first week of January.
- MCCI meets with the Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt General HM Ershad on 4 May, and the President and the immediate past President of the Chamber deliver their speeches highlighting import, export and other relevant policies for 1983-84. The meeting is attended by Ministers, Heads of Diplomatic Missions, Secretaries of different Ministries, senior civil and military officials and members of trade and industry.
- The Chamber considers a proposal for formation of a Joint Chamber of Commerce between MCCI and the Chamber of Trade of Nepal and for sending a trade delegation to Nepal sometime in October or November.
- Bangladesh-Japan Joint Committee for Commercial and Economic Co-operation led by Mr Kiku Ikeda has a meeting with the Chamber Committee, followed by lunch, on 21 November.
- Memorandum of Association amended by Special Resolution is passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting held on 28 December.

1984

- A number of important visitors and delegations visit MCCI during the year. Among them are: a Delegation from Engineering Export Promotion Council of India led by Mr JL Anand (11 April), a 13 Member delegation from the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (23 July) and a World Bank/ADB Team on 17 October.
- The Committee finalizes the Chamber's comments on two important documents for the Planning Commission – 'Thoughts on the Third Five-Year Plan (1985-90)' and 'Thoughts about Perspective Plan (1980-2000)'.
- The Committee considers the invitation of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Paris, for affiliation with them, and decides to join the ICC.

1985

- The Trade Organisations Rules, 1985, is finally gazetted on the 25 April and most of the views of the Chamber, earlier submitted to the government, are accommodated.
- A delegation from the Arab Chamber of Commerce and a high-powered team from International Monetary Fund visit the Chamber and have meetings with the Committee on 20 April and 11 July respectively.
- The Chamber Committee meets the World Bank Team of experts on Energy Conservation and Development Programme, where views are exchanged for further development of the energy sector.
- The President of the MCCI is made a member of the 29-Member Council of the National Council for Industrial Development constituted by the Government of Bangladesh.

1986

- A large number of visitors, including Mr Anwar Hossain, Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources, visit the Chamber to meet member-firms. Several missions from international agencies such as World Bank, Asian Development Bank and International Trade Centre visit the Chamber and hold discussions on a number of issues.
- An Extraordinary General Meeting is held and the Articles of Association of MCCI are amended by a special resolution on 10 July.

- The Chamber continues to conduct examinations of the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

1987

- World Bank, Bangladesh Malaysia Joint Colloquium and Swedish Trade Delegation hold discussions on a number of issues with the Chamber Committee.
- MCCI publishes a book titled Industry in Bangladesh.
- The Chamber sends a trade delegation to Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and Australia to explore possibilities of further expansion of trade with these countries.
- The Chamber has a post-budget meeting on 6 July where the Deputy Prime Minister, Deputy Minister for Finance, Chairman of National Board of Revenue, Governor of Bangladesh Bank and Commerce Secretary are present. A number of member-firms raise different problems and issues relating to new import and export policies.

1988

- Messrs Don Westmore and Peter Collins, Department of Commerce, Government of the USA visit Chamber on 27 March and address members.
- Ms Page Ramsey Hays from United States Export-Import Bank addresses members of the MCCI on 8 May.
- A number of trade missions and missions from international agencies, such as World Bank, Asian Development Bank, International Finance Corporation and Commonwealth Development Corporation, hold discussions with the Chamber on a number of issues relating to the development of trade and commerce.
- The Chamber prepares a paper in August on increased electricity tariff and its adverse effects on Jute, Textile and other industries. Suggestions for Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources are put forward but no action is taken by the government
- MCCI expresses concern at loss of working hours during November and December. It issues press releases showing that, out of 51 working days, mills and factories had lost of 232 hours production and increased losses of Tk 345 Crore.

1989

- Dr Hyung S Choi, Ex-Minister for Science and Technology, Republic of Korea, and a delegation from the Confederation of Engineering Industry of India (CEI) meet members of the Chamber.
- The Chamber Committee has a series of meetings with the Prime Minister, Finance Minister, Minister for Planning, Commerce Minister, and the Secretary of the Ministry of Industries and other important officials.
- The Committee approves a paper incorporating the Chamber's suggestions for the Fourth Five-Year Plan. The paper is handed over to the Minister for Planning.
- A Press release is issued and letters are sent to the President and the Vice President of the Government of Bangladesh by MCCI on the government's decisions on Insurance Business. In these letters it is pointed out that restrictions on the sponsors of banking companies to sponsor insurance companies has been retained, apparently to stop monopolistic trends in the economy, but such restrictions would eliminate the scope of involving many enterprising businessmen in the insurance industry. MCCI advises government to withdraw these restrictions.
- The Chamber's Trade Delegation visits some European countries. They hold successful business meetings with the Confederation of British Industry, Confederation of German Chamber of Commerce, German Employers' Federation and Stockholm Chamber of Commerce.
- An Extraordinary General Meeting is held and Articles of Association of MCCI are amended by a special resolution on 4 September.

1990

- The Chamber Committee submits its suggestions to the government for amendments to the Customs Act, 1969, and the Excise Act, 1944.
- MCCI produces a short video film with the help of the Board of Investment to depict prospects of industrialization in the country.
- Mr Bernard Vieux, Inspector General of Finance, Government of France, visits MCCI on 31 October and delivers a speech.
- An Extraordinary General Meeting is held and the Articles of Association of MCCI are amended by a special resolution on 31 December.

1991

- The Chamber Committee welcomes the 12th Constitution Amendment Bill, 1991 and issues a press release declaring that it is a landmark in the journey to parliamentary democracy.
- MCCI expresses deep concern in a press release on 6 March over some provisions of the Financial Sector Adjustment Credit (FSC) agreement which the Government had concluded with the World Bank.
- On behalf of the business community, the Chamber requests the Finance Minister to solicit public opinion on 'Banking Companies Bill, 1991' introduced in the Parliament in May. MCCI claims that the bill contains some provisions which are contrary to the existing Companies Act and Banking Companies Ordinance, 1962.
- MCCI, DCCI and CCCI issue a joint press release on 5 June expressing concern and disappointment at the recent publication of a list of defaulters by the Bangladesh Bank. The press release emphasizes that Bangladesh Bank's list actually has worked to protect defaulters.
- The Chamber members attend a meeting to discuss recently introduced VAT system on 4 July and feel that the system will prove to be beneficial for the country in the long run.
- Mr Richard D Harding, the visiting Director of South Asian Affairs, Department of Commerce, Government of the USA, in a meeting with MCCI members held on 16 July pledges continued support of his government to help promote Bangladesh's export in the USA.

1992

- The Chamber issues a press release on 17 March expressing gratitude to parties who refused to extend support to SKOP's strike programme, thereby establishing an example of keeping national interests above political expediency.
- The Chamber, in collaboration with the Jatiyo Press Club, organizes a two-day seminar on 10-11 May entitled 'Policy Options for Economic Breakthrough' which is inaugurated by Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia MP and where the closing session is graced by the Opposition Leader of Parliament, Sheikh Hasina MP.
- MCCI issues a press release on 19 June on Budget for 1992-93 and expresses its deep concern about importance of protecting local industries by mentioning appropriate measures to be taken to safeguard their interest.

- An 11-member delegation from the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry led by Mr Mumtaz Ahmad meets the members of the MCCI and a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between MCCI and BCCI is signed on 1 November envisaging expanded industrial co-operation between India and Bangladesh.
- A large number of visitors, including Mr M Saifur Rahman, Minister for Finance, visit the Chamber to meet member-firms. Several missions from international agencies such as Royal College of Defence Studies, UK, visit the Chamber. Discussions are held with Chamber members on important issues of mutual concern.

1993

- MCCI and the World Bank jointly organize a seminar on 'Expanding Private Investment' where the key-note speaker is Dr Hernan Buchi, former Minister for Finance of Chile.
- The Chamber issues a press release on 12 May stating that SKOP's strike has been overwhelmingly ignored and that workers of mills and factories in Dhaka, Khulna and Chittagong did not respond to the strike call.
- Mr S Venkitaramanan, former Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, visits MCCI and delivers the key-note speech on 'Foreign Exchange De-Regulation' in a meeting held on 27 September.
- Minister for Finance, Minister for Industries, Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources and Minister for Communications, separately visit the Chamber and meet its members in the course of the year.
- Dr Akbar Ali Khan, Chairman of NBR, addresses members of the Chamber on 13 September and 7 December.

1994

- A High-powered VAT Task Force consisting of senior officials of the government of Nepal meets members of the Chamber in its Conference Hall on 4 January.
- MCCI urges the government not to declare any public holiday on 30 January on the occasion of the City Corporation Elections in the 4 cities. It issues a press release on 26 January and mentions that one day's production loss in non-agricultural activities amounts to at least Tk 150 crore.
- A Turkish Delegation headed by Mr Tavfik Isil UNEL, Prime Minister's Under Secretary of Treasury and Foreign Trade, along with Mr Kutlu Ozguvene, Turkish

Ambassador to Bangladesh, calls on the President and the Secretary General of the Chamber on 4 April.

- The Chamber Committee continues to review the meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Economic Committee which consists of representatives of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and the Chamber. Meetings are held every month, alternatively in Dhaka and New Delhi or Kolkata.
- The Chamber organizes a seminar with the World Bank on 'South Asian Economies in the 21st Century', on 4 May. Lord Meghnad Desai, Professor of Economics of London School of Economics, is the key-note speaker. A large number of businessmen, diplomats, academics, journalists, trade union representatives and members of parliament take active part in the discussions that ensue.
- MCCI-CII Joint Task Force Members attend a series of meetings during the year.
- Dr Manmohan Singh, Indian Finance Minister, addresses the members of the Chamber in a meeting organized by the MCCI-CII Joint Task Force on 12 July.
- An Extraordinary General Meeting is held and the Articles of Association of MCCI are amended by a special resolution adopted on 1 November.

1995

- MCCI receives a letter from the Ministry of Commerce authorizing only the Export Promotion Bureau to issue Certificates of Origin (COO) in respect of textile products to European Union (EC) countries, under Rule 4 of the government's Textile Trade and Quota Administration Rules, 1991. The Chamber decides to take up the matter with the government, pointing out that under the Trade Organisation's Rules, 1994, the Chamber of Commerce has full authority to issue COO.
- The President and the Vice President of the Chamber go to Rome to participate in a seminar on 'Bangladesh Investment Climate and Trade Opportunities' held from 30 January to 1 February.
- Mr Binod Dubey, Director of World Bank, and a group of Thai businessmen visit the Chamber and meet members.
- The Chief of the World Bank Resident Mission, Dhaka, Mr Pierre Landell-Mill, along with his senior colleagues, meets the Chamber Committee on 27 March.
- MCCI releases a book entitled "Shaping South Asia's Future – Role of Regional Cooperation" on 19 April. Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr ASM Mostafizur Rahman, is present on the occasion.

- The Ministry of Commerce requests the Chamber to attend the 6th Bangladesh-Pakistan Joint Economic Commission to be held in Islamabad on 25 July. The Committee sends a member to join the meeting.
- MCCI welcomes the trade and investment delegation from the People's Republic of China to the Chamber on 12 September.
- A British Infrastructure and Technology Mission, led by Mr Peter Lee, meets members of the Chamber on 25 November.

1996

- A large number of visitors, including Advisers of Caretaker government, Mr Syed Manzur Elahi, Dr Wahiduddin Mahmud, Mr Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed and Minister for Commerce and Industries, Mr Tofael Ahmed, the NBR Chairman, Dr Akbar Ali Khan, visit and meet members of the Chamber over the course of the year. Mr David N Merrill (US Ambassador) and Ms Renee Veyret (French Ambassador) also hold meetings with the Chamber Committee.
- 13-member delegations from the Indian Foreign Service Institute meet members of MCCI on 13 May. The delegation is headed by Mrs Sujatha Singh.
- The 15th Batch of the BCS (Taxation) Officers meet Chamber members on 20 April.
- The World Bank Resident Representative, Mr Pierre Landell-Mills, along with other senior colleagues, meets the Chamber Committee on 30 June.
- Mr Samson H Chowdhury, Chamber President, hands over a copy of the Chamber's publication entitled 'Economic Agenda of the New Government' to Mr Tofael Ahmed MP, Minister for Commerce and Industries, on 28 July.
- The Chamber issues a press release on 29 July praising the budget of 1996-97 and mentioning several welcome features which would help improve the investment climate in the country.
- A Turkish Trade Delegation led by Mr Omer Besim Kufrevi, Vice-President, Executive Board, Istanbul Chamber of Commerce, meet the Chamber Committee on 27 July and Mr Kufrevi delivers a speech.
- A Thai Trade Mission headed by Mr Photipong Lamsam, along with Mr Sunthorn Vidhyameth, Ambassador of Thailand in Bangladesh, meets members of MCCI on 8 October.
- A British Trade Mission, headed by Mr David Walker, the British High Commissioner, and Ms Miriam R McIntosh, British Deputy High Commissioner in Bangladesh, meets the members of MCCI on 26 October.

- The country's trade and industry welcomes the historic agreement reached in Singapore by 128 member nations of the World Trade Organization (WTO) on 13 December. Chamber representatives take an active part as part of the Bangladesh delegation.
- MCCI welcomes the Ganges Water Sharing Treaty and issues a press release on 18 December signed by the President Samson H Chowdhury to that effect.

1997

- Mr Tofael Ahmed MP, Minister for Commerce and Industries, addresses a discussion meeting on 'Outcome of the 1st Ministerial Conference of World Trade Organization' organized by DCCI and MCCI on 5 January.
- Members of the British Overseas Trade Board Mission meet the members of MCCI on 26 January.
- MCCI urges the government, on behalf of the country's trade and industry, that the weekly holiday be changed from Friday to Sunday. In a press release issued on 20 March, the Chamber states that importers and exporters have been losing business opportunities for 2 days of the week from September 1982 onwards, when the weekly holiday was suddenly changed from Sunday to Friday without any consultation with trade and industry.
- A delegation from MCCI-CII Joint Economic Council (JEC) meets the Indian Prime Minister Mr IK Gujral in New Delhi on 28 May. The Indian Prime Minister appreciates the proactive role of the MCCI-CII JEC and shows considerable interest in supporting the strengthening of ties between the two countries.
- A Dutch delegation, headed by Mr W De Vries, Director for Commercial Affairs, City of Groningen, meets members of the Chamber on 22 June.
- An MoU is signed between MCCI and the Confederation of Singapore Industries on 10 July after a seminar on 'Investment Opportunities in Bangladesh' held in Singapore.
- The Chamber initiates a series of seminars to develop awareness on quality improvement and competitiveness, at the advent of globalization. Dr Madhab Mehra, President of World Quality Council, is the Resource Speaker at the first seminar held on 20 November.
- Members of the Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry meet members of MCCI on 26 December.

- Several meetings are held with Ministers for Finance and Commerce and Industries during the year and the Chamber discusses the Share Market Scam and submits proposals to the government in this regard.

1998

- The members of the Chamber Committee meet Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on 7 January and discuss issues relating to the Chittagong Port, Power Supply, Labour Sector Reforms etc.
- Dr William P Fuller, President of the Asia Foundation and Dr Karen L Casper, Representative of the Asia Foundation, Dhaka, meet members of the Chamber and speak to its members on 14 January.
- MCCI has a meeting with the 'South Asian Group of Eminent Persons' on 9 February. They exchange views with members and acknowledge the Chamber's capacity to contribute in the formulation of policy guidelines for the development of the region.
- MCCI receives Mr Anthony Png Choo Ling, leader of the Singapore Trade and Investment Mission and his 12-member team at the Chamber office on 23 March and discusses trade and investment issues.
- The Minister for Finance, Mr SAMS Kibria MP, addresses members of MCCI at a pre-budget discussion meeting held on 1 April.
- The Minister for Commerce and Industries, Mr Tofael Ahmed MP, addresses the members of MCCI at a pre-budget discussion meeting held on 27 April.
- The Chamber and Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies jointly organizes a Workshop on 'Dissemination of Awareness on Environmental Conservation Act 1995 and Rules 1997', on 14 May. The workshop identifies several problem areas for industries arising from the legal requirements of obtaining environmental clearance.
- A large number of visitors and a number of missions visit MCCI during the year. Among the visitors are: Ms Renee Veyret (French Ambassador), Ms Cristina Funes-Noppen (Belgian Ambassador), Mr Andre Lorent (Belgian Trade Commissioner), Dr William P Fuller (President, The Asian Foundation) and Dr Chakradhari Agrawal (Secretary General, World Association of Small and Medium Enterprises).
- Missions are received from the World Bank, IMF, Confederation of Indian Steel Industry and TDB SCI Singapore Infrastructure Mission. A French Trade Delegation and a delegation from the Indian Foreign Service also visit the Chamber.

1999

- The Commerce Secretary, MCCI President, ICC-Bangladesh President and DCCI President meet delegates of the governments of SAARC countries at a meeting hosted by the MCCI on 31 January to discuss main features of the 3rd Tariff Agreement under SAPTA.
- Dr Joseph Stiglitz, Chief Economist and Senior Vice President of the World Bank, visits the Chamber and meets committee members on 15 March to discuss economic issues.
- MCCI, FICCI, BEAF, BGMEA, Bangladesh Knitwear Manufactures and Exporters Association, Bangladesh Jute Spinners Association and Bangladesh Frozen Foods Exporters Association jointly present a press release urging reconsideration of hartal programme declared by political parties. The press release is issued on 12 April.
- The Chamber extends host facilities to a Taiwan Turnkey, Engineering & Electronic Trade Mission from 8-9 April.
- Missions of the European Unions meet with members of the Chamber Committee on 11 April to discuss economic issues.
- Dr M Farashuddin, Governor of Bangladesh Bank, visits the Chamber on 17 May to discuss issues relating to the financial sector.
- A delegation from the Chamber visits Singapore to attend a seminar on 'Business Opportunities in Bangladesh' organized by the Chamber, jointly with the Bangladesh High Commission in Singapore, Singapore Confederation of Industries and Singapore Trade Development held on 14 July.
- A Business Delegation from FKCCI visits MCCI office and signs Business Cooperation Agreement on 27 July.
- A 15-member Trade and Investment Delegation from Singapore Confederation of Industry (SCI) and Singapore Trade Development Board (STDB), led by Mr Ridzwan Dzafir, meets members of MCCI on 12 October.
- The Chamber Committee meets the Minister of Commerce and Industries on 31 December to discuss key issues.

2000

- MCCI organizes a day-long workshop on 'Energy Management' at the Chamber's Conference Hall on 24 January.

- Dr David Carter, the British High Commissioner in Bangladesh, visits the Chamber on 14 February.
- The Joint Economic Council of the Confederation of Indian Industry - Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce & Industry (CII-MCCI JEC) holds its second meeting on 23 February and discusses various aspects of Indo-Bangladesh co-operation on trade and industry.
- The members of the Chamber meet the Finance Minister, Mr Shah AMS Kibria, for a pre-budget discussion meeting held in the Chamber office on 28 March.
- Several training courses such as 'Marketing Strategies and Sales Promotion', and 'Production Planning and Quality Control' are organized by the Chamber under the 'Management Development Programme' during the months of January-March, August, September and October.
- The Chamber organizes a two-day visit of a forty-member trade delegation from Sri Lanka-Bangladesh Business Council (SLBBC), Colombo, which explores business and investments prospects in Bangladesh, during March 29-30. The delegation has a bilateral business meeting with Chamber members where the Commerce Minister is present as the Chief Guest.
- The Chamber President, Mr Latifur Rahman, presents a paper on 'Public and Private Sectors of the Bangladesh Economy' at the Administrative Staff College in Mirpur, Dhaka on 29 March.
- Mr Jan Axel Voss, Deputy Head of Mission of German Embassy in Bangladesh, meets the President and Secretary-General of the Chamber on 6 July and discusses issues of bilateral interest.
- The Chamber, jointly with Save the Children, UK, sponsors the launching ceremony of a publication "Big Business, Small Hands: Responsible Approaches to Child Labor" on 21 November. HRH Princess Anne of the United Kingdom graces the occasion.

2001

- Several training courses are organized by the Chamber under the rubric of 'Management Development Programme' during the months of August, September and December.
- The Chamber organizes a half-day discussion meet on World Trade Organization (WTO) and issues arising from its programmes for phasing out of tariff and non-tariff barriers by January 1. Mr Muchkund Dubey, former Permanent

Representative of India to the WTO, is the Guest Speaker. Mr MA Jalil, Minister for Commerce, inaugurates the Meeting.

- A Chamber delegation headed by its President meets Chief Adviser of the Caretaker Government on 26 August. MCCI submits several proposals, relating to the development of the economy of Bangladesh, at the meeting.
- A two-day workshop on 'Strategies for Competitive Success' is organized by MCCI in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta, from 19 to 20 November. Professor Ranjan Das of IIM, Calcutta, delivers his speech as the Resource Person.

2002

- Under its management development programme, the Chamber organises third semester classes of the One Year International Business Programme (IBP) offered by the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta (IIMC), in association with the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka, from 5 to 15 January.
- The Chamber meets with Mr Nicholas Stern, Chief Economist and Senior Vice-President of the World Bank, Washington DC, at the Chamber's office on 8 January.
- Mr Abdul Razak Dawood, Minister of Commerce, Industries and Production of Pakistan, visits the Chamber and delivers a speech to members of MCCI on 29 January.
- The Chamber, under its energy management programme, organises a two-day workshop on 'Energy Management in Industrial Practice' on 17-18 February.
- The Chamber has a meeting with the Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA) at the Chamber Office on 7 March and discusses issues of mutual interest, including possibilities of more investments in the EPZs of the country.
- The Chamber jointly with the Asian Centre for Democratic Governance and the Bangladesh Enterprise Institute organises a conference on 'Strengthening Democratic Governance', on 17-18 March.
- A Chamber Delegation meets the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Begum Khaleda Zia, at the Prime Minister's office on 30 March.
- The Chamber hosts a luncheon meeting in honour of Mr David Kilgour, MP, Secretary of State for Asia Pacific, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Government of Canada, on 1 April.
- Under its ongoing Management Development Programme, the Chamber organizes a 5 day training course on 'Strategic Planning in Marketing of Products and Services', from 24 to 30 April.

- MCCI meets members of the Economic Reporters Forum on 15 May to share the Chamber's views on the upcoming budget and other aspects of the economy of Bangladesh.
- The Chamber under its Management Development Programme organizes a five-day training course on 'Developing Team Leadership Skills for Organisational Growth' from 3 to 7 August.
- The Chamber under its Energy Management programme organises a two-day workshop on 'How to Economise Energy Cost', on 17-18 August.
- The Chamber under its Management Development Programme organizes a five-day training course on 'Marketability through Effective Distribution Network', from 24 to 28 August.
- The Chamber hosts a luncheon meeting on 27 August in honour of HE Rt Hon Donald C Mckinnon, Commonwealth Secretary General, at the MCCI office.
- The Chamber holds a discussion meeting at the MCCI office on 4 September with the visiting President of the Japanese Commerce and Industry Association and JETRO Representative.
- An Extraordinary General Meeting is held and Articles of Association of MCCI are amended by a special resolution on 12 September.
- The Chamber discusses bilateral trade issues with a visiting business delegation from the Federal Republic of Nigeria, on 19 September.
- The Chamber organises a round table discussion on 1 October on (1) merits of the tariff concessions recently given by the Government of India and (2) national preparedness to meet contractual obligations under the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) of the WTO. Minister for Commerce attends the discussion as Chief Guest.
- The Chamber under its Management Development Programme organizes a five-day training course on 'Business Communication Skills' from 5 to 9 October.
- The Chamber organizes a round-table discussion on 29 October on trade and industry's expectations from 'Economic Diplomacy'. The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr M Morshed Khan MP, attends the round-table discussions as Chief Guest.
- The Chamber under its Management Development Programme organizes a five-day training course on 'Financial Management for Non-Financial Managers' from 26 to 30 October.

2003

- The Chamber Committee holds a meeting on 2 January with Mr Mohammad A Vayid, CMG, Chairman & Managing Director, Strategic Management Consultants Ltd of Mauritius, to discuss possibilities of expanding business and economic co-operation between Mauritius and Bangladesh.
- The Chamber under its Management Development Programme organizes a five-day training course on 'Improving Employee Performance: Professional Way of Coaching and Counselling' from 18 to 23 February.
- A Thai Trade Delegation headed by Mr Prachuab Chaiyasan meets members of MCCI, DCCI and ICC-Bangladesh at the MCCI Conference Hall on 31 March.
- A Chamber Delegation meets the Prime Minister, Government of Bangladesh, at the Prime Minister's office on 1 April.
- Dr M Yunus, Managing Director of Grameen Bank, visits the Chamber in April and has discussions on the Bank's programme for alleviation of rural poverty and for education and health-care activities in rural areas.
- A Chamber Delegation meets the President of Sri Lanka, Mrs Chandrika Kumaratunga, during her visit to Dhaka in April.
- Under its Management Development Programme, the Chamber organises a four-day training course on 'Developing Effective Marketing Strategies' from 27 to 30 April.
- The Chamber under its Management Development Programme organises a four-day training course on 'Team Building for Organisational Growth' from 18-21 May.
- MCCI issues a press release on 13 June, expressing its reaction to the budget for 2003-04 and points out that 'the provision of conversion of black money into white money by investing in capital market is a retrograde step and this may discourage those who have been paying taxes regularly and honestly'.
- The Indian Minister for External Affairs, Mr Yashwant Sinha, has a meeting with MCCI on 15 July. Foreign Minister and Commerce Minister of Bangladesh and the Chamber President are also present on the occasion.
- A Mission of the Asian Development Bank meets members of MCCI on 20 July.
- Dr Joseph E Stiglitz, Nobel Laureate and Professor of Finance and Economics, Columbia Business School, USA, addresses the members of MCCI, Dhaka, at the Chamber office on 13 August.

- Ambassador of USA in Bangladesh, Mr Harry K Thomas, visits MCCI on 24 September and delivers a speech.
- Lord Swaraj Paul, a member of the British House of Lords, meets the members of the Chamber on 8 October. The British High Commissioner and the Deputy High Commissioner are also present at the meeting.
- The Chamber holds a meeting at the MCCI office on 20 October with Mr Guy Gagnon, Director, Asia Bureau, Industrial Cooperation Programme, Canadian Partnership Branch and Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

2004

- The Chamber Committee, along with some of its past presidents, meets Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, MP, on 12 January.
- High Commissioner of India to Bangladesh, Ms Veena Sikri, visits MCCI on 15 January and 7 October.
- In March, the Chamber signs Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) with Australian Business Limited and State Chamber of Commerce (New South Wales).
- Dr Muhammad Yunus, the Managing Director of Grameen Bank, addresses members of MCCI on 17 April at the Chamber Conference Hall.
- The Chamber meets Mr Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Minister for Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives, in May and discusses the law and order situation, overall governance, policy support to industry, free trade with India, port facilities and other important issues.
- The Chamber, jointly with Singapore Manufacturer's Federation, Singapore Enterprises Ltd., Bangladesh High Commission in Singapore and the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, organizes an Investors' Conference in Singapore on 20 May. A large number of Singaporean entrepreneurs attend the conference.
- The Chamber holds a discussion and dinner meeting at a city hotel on 24 June with the Singapore Prime Minister, HE Mr Goh Chok Tong.
- The Chamber holds a discussion meeting on 27 June with Mr AKM Mosharraf Hossain, MP, Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources, Government of Bangladesh, at the MCCI office.
- The Chamber meeting decides to celebrate its centenary in a befitting manner. A committee under a former president is set up to chalk out a detailed program.

- The Chamber holds a meeting on 11 October with the visiting Organisation Development Adviser of the Confederation of Danish industries at the MCCI office.
- The Chamber organizes a seminar on 9 December on the occasion of the release of the World Bank's flagship publication, Global Economic Prospects-2005. Mr Uri Dadush, Director, Trade Department and Mr Richard Newfarmer, Lead Economist from the World Bank's Washington Office, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Government of Bangladesh, and Country Director, World Bank, Dhaka, among others, are present attend the seminar.
- The 100th AGM of MCCI is held on 30 December at the Chamber's Conference Hall. 39 members attend.

2005

- A Chamber delegation, headed by the President, visits Chittagong Port on 12 January and meets the Chairman and other senior officials of the Chittagong Port Authority to discuss issues pertaining to enhancing the operational efficiency of Chittagong Port and privatization of some of the port services.
- The Chamber Committee meets the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr M Morshed Khan MP, at his office on the 15 January and donates books worth Taka one lac for the library of the Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi, India.
- A Chamber Delegation, led by its President, calls on the Governor, Bangladesh Bank, Dr Fakhruddin Ahmed, on 18 April.
- A delegation from the Chamber headed by its President, Mr Kutubuddin Ahmed, along with some former Presidents, calls on the Hon'ble Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, MP, at her office on 4 May. The delegation discusses key issues concerning the economic interest of the country, including increase in Bank interest rates; liquidity crises in the banking sector; continuation of Tax Holiday scheme which was supposed to be terminated on 30 June, 2005; and national minimum wages. The Prime Minister appreciates the Chamber's concern on the above issues.
- An 11-member Chinese Government Economic and Trade Delegation headed by Mr Wang Chao, the first Vice-Governor of Dehong Dai and Jingpo Autonomous Prefecture, Yunnan Province, China, visits the Chamber on 8 June. The delegation discusses matters relating to trade between Bangladesh and China.
- The Chamber Committee meets the Finance Minister, Mr M Saifur Rahman, MP, at his office on 27 June and discusses important issues.

- A delegation from the Chamber meets the Governor, Bangladesh Bank, on 9 July to discuss the possibility of US Dollar scarcity in the market distorting trade and commerce in the country. The delegation also hands over a strategy paper suggesting possible steps to be taken by the Central Bank to stabilize the currency market.
- The Minister for Commerce visits the Chamber on 30 August. The Chamber informs the Minister about the impact of price hike of essential commodities and suggests remedial measures including steps to be taken to boost the country's export.
- A 10-member delegation visits Yunnan Province, People's Republic of China, from 10 to 17 December at the invitation of the Vice Governor, Dehong Prefecture, Yunnan Province.

2006

- A Chamber delegation consisting of the President, Vice-President, two former Presidents and the Secretary-General participates at the 'Partnership Summit 2006' organized jointly by the CII and the Government of West Bengal in Kolkata from January 18–20. The Summit is inaugurated by the Indian President, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam. The Summit is attended by important and international dignitaries.
- A delegation from the Chamber participates at the 'IMEXPRO 2006' held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, from March 16–18. MCCI signs an MoU with the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce during the visit in order to enhance mutual cooperation between the two bodies.
- A delegation from the Chamber, led by its President, Mr Latifur Rahman, calls on the Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia MP, at her office on 19 April. The delegation discusses various issues concerning the economy of the country including: high interest rates and the credit squeeze; increase in government borrowing from the banking sector: threat to industrial and other sectors; withdrawal of Tax Holiday; worsening electricity situation; impact of import liberalization on industries; withdrawal of tax concession to whiten black money. A Chamber Delegation accompanies the Prime Minister during her visit to India from 22 to 24 March.
- A Chinese Delegation led by Mr Si Wei, Director of Dehong Commerce Bureau, the People's Republic of China, visits the Chamber office on 17 April.
- A survey on 'HR Practices in Bangladesh' is jointly carried out by the Chamber and Ernst & Young, India. The inaugural session is held on 18 May in Dhaka. Mrs Renata Lok Dessalien, the UNDP Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Bangladesh, graces the occasion with her presence.

- A German Business Mission visits and exchanges views with members of the Chamber on 22 May. The visit is organized by the German Asia-Pacific Business Association and sponsored by the Federal Ministry of Economics & Technology, Germany. The team expresses keen interest in investing in the textile as well as other sectors in Bangladesh.
- MCCI delegation holds meetings in March with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and discusses issues relating to the implementation of the South Asian Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA) which would take effect from 1 July 2006.
- A delegation of MCCI, headed by its President, meets the Chairman of NBR on 13 April to discuss the Chamber's proposals for the 2006-2007 Budget.
- The Chamber participates in the 7th International Conference on Corporate Governance held in London on 11 and 12 May. Former President, Mr M Anis Ud Dowla and the Secretary-General, Mr CK Hyder are among the participants.
- In a press release issued on 9 June, MCCI expresses its disappointment over the budget of 2006-07 announced by the Finance Minister Mr Saifur Rahman. MCCI is distressed over the provision in the new budget for continuation of the tax concession for black money.
- The Chamber, along with other trade bodies and the Bangladesh Employers' Federation, makes a representation to the Government for changing weekly holidays from Friday and Saturday to Saturday and Sunday so as to ensure uniformity of weekly holidays with other countries in the global market. The issue is discussed with the Prime Minister when an MCCI delegation meets Her Excellency but no decision is taken by the Government in this regard.
- The Chamber Committee discusses several times during the year the situation arising from political unrest and enforcement of hartals. Individually as well as jointly with other like-minded trade bodies, several representations and meetings are held to request the Government as well as the opposition parties to avoid confrontational politics as the country's trade and industry, particularly small entrepreneurs, are being badly affected by it. Regrettably, such representations do not yield any improvement in the overall situation.

2007

- Dr Fakhruddin Ahmed, the Hon'ble Chief Advisor (CA), Caretaker Government, meets a delegation of newly elected office bearers of MCCI, led by its President, Mr Latifur Rahman, along with some former Presidents, at his office on 7 February. The delegation provides an overview of the economic situation of the

country. The delegation appreciates the positive drive and sincere efforts being taken by the Caretaker Government to bring back normalcy and hold free and fair elections in the country. The CA welcomes the delegation, stating that the Caretaker Government was trying its best to discharge its responsibilities. He seeks full support of the business community. The CA interacts freely with members of the delegation. He thanks the Chamber for the proposals submitted to him for the greater economic interest of the country. The MCCI delegation is in fact the first amongst private sector trade bodies to call on the CA.

- An MCCI Delegation of eight members, headed by its President, attends the Second SAARC Business Conclave held at Bombay, India on 17-18 February, at the invitation of the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.
- A Chamber Delegation calls on the Governor, Reserve Bank of India, and Chairman, Bombay Stock Exchange, on 19 February. The delegation is received warmly at both institutions. The delegation exchanges views on bilateral cooperation and discusses mutual benefits from such cooperation.
- A delegation from the Chamber calls on the Advisor for Ministry of Finance and Planning, Commerce, Post and Telecommunication, Dr AB Mirza Azizul Islam, at his Finance Ministry office on 22 February.
- A discussion meeting on 'Promotion of Trade and Economic Cooperation' is organized by MCCI in collaboration with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) on the occasion of the SAARC Car Rally 2007 on 14 March in the Chamber Conference Hall.
- A 17-member Thai Board of Investment Delegation visits the Chamber on 28 March. The delegation is led by Mr Vittaya Praisuwan, the Executive Investment Adviser, Thailand Board of Investment. The Thai Delegation shows keen interest in Bangladesh's investment climate. It indicates that Thai investors will look forward to utilizing business opportunities in the near future.
- Advisor in Charge of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dr Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury, meets Chamber members on 6 May and has discussions on various issues. MCCI expresses its view-points on issues relating to implementation and follow-up of India's announcement at the 14 SAARC Summit that products of SAARC LDCs would be duty-free and quota-free by the end of 2007.
- The Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Dr YV Reddy, meets Chamber members at the Chamber Building on 17 May. In his detailed speech, the RBI Governor points out how India was able to earn international confidence and gather significant strength through financial sector reforms.

- MCCI issues a public statement on 8 June expressing its concern about the budget provisions for reduction of duty on imported products and their competitive advantage vis-à-vis similar local products. The Chamber brings these issues up before the Chief Adviser of the Caretaker Government.
- In a public statement issued on 10 September, MCCI expects that two events held during the previous 7 days - (1) the business community's dialogue on business environment with the Chief Adviser of the Caretaker Government and the Army Chief and (2) the visit of Dr Craig R Barrett, Chairman of Intel Corporation, will prove to be of significance to the national economy.

2008

- A non-resident Bangladeshi team from the USA, led by Mr Hansen H Clarke, Senator of Michigan State Senate, the USA, visits MCCI on 2 January.
- A delegation from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has discussions with MCCI in Dhaka on 10 March.
- A MCCI delegation led by its President Mr Latifur Rahman meets Dr Hossain Zillur Rahman, Advisor in charge of the Ministries of Commerce and Education, on 13 April.
- A delegation from the Chamber, led by its President, calls on the Chairman of NBR, on 28 April, to discuss MCCI's proposals for the upcoming budget 2008-09.
- The Chamber holds a series of meetings with Dr Salehuddin Ahmed, Governor of Bangladesh Bank, on 30 March, 16 April and 24 April, to discuss interest rates, credit and other issues of Bangladesh Bank's 4th Mid-Year Monetary Policy Statement.
- In a public statement issued on 10 June, MCCI expresses happiness after seeing that education has been given the third largest share in the ADP and special attention has been given to the development of agriculture.
- The Chamber opposes the PDB's proposals for increasing electricity tariff and Petrobangla's proposal for increasing gas tariff early this year. MCCI suggests that both PDB and Petrobangla should be more mindful about reduction of system loss before proposing such tariff increases.
- The 104th AGM is held on 30 December at the Chamber Conference Hall and 39 members are present.

2009

- A delegation from MCCI led by its President, Mr Abdul Hafiz Choudhury, FCA, calls on the Minister for Commerce, Mr Muhammad Faruq Khan, MP, at his office on 13 January.
- An MCCI delegation led by its President calls on the Minister for Finance, Mr Abul Maal Abdul Muhith, MP, at the latter's office on 21 January. Major issues are discussed with the Minister included measures to face the challenges of economic revitalization at the time of global recession; high food prices, and the government's plan for inflation control; the volatile situation in the capital market; the law and order situation, and economic losses resulting from the prevailing shortage of gas and electricity.
- A delegation from the Chamber, led by its President, calls on Mr Dilip Barua, the Minister for Industries at the latter's office on 8 February.
- The Chamber participates in a 2-day International Event (the multi-country match-making project) entitled 'South Europe Meets South Asia 2009', funded by the European Commission which is held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, on 27-28 February. Bangladesh has the highest number of participants of all guest countries- Spain, Greece, Italy, Slovenia and Nepal. The entrepreneurs from Bangladesh who participate in the events are satisfied and feel that this event will be helpful in opening new business possibilities and networking.
- The Chamber presents its views on the proposal to increase electricity tariffs at the retail level, at the open session of the hearing, organized by the Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC), on 4 March.
- MCCI has a meeting with the Chairman of NBR on 11 March to discuss the Chamber's budget proposals for the upcoming 2009-2010 fiscal year.
- The Chamber puts forward a set of proposals for the economic agenda of the new government to face global economic recession and discusses various other issues with the Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, MP, at her office on 18 March. The President of the Chamber presents a crest to the Prime Minister. The Chamber takes note of the Prime Minister's views on the areas where MCCI could be involved.
- A delegation led by the Chamber's President calls on the Governor of Bangladesh Bank, Dr Atiur Rahman, at the latter's office on 10 June. MCCI members in the delegation raise important issues with the Governor.
- A team of experts from the World Bank pays a visit to the Chamber on 14 June to hold a pre-consultation meeting with leaders of the private sector to get the views

of the business community on what the goals, objectives and strategy of the World Bank's Country Assistance Strategy (CAS) for the upcoming 2010-2013 period could be.

- The Chamber organizes a roundtable discussion among members of the business community, civil society, media, and policy makers in the Chamber's Conference Hall on 26 July. Mr Saber Hossain Chowdhury, Member of Parliament, and Chairman of the Environment Sub-Committee of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Environment and Forests, is the Chief Guest. The Chamber expresses its commitment to support any national program on environmental issues.
- A German business delegation led by Mr Peter Clasen from the OAV (German Asia-Pacific Business Association), along with officials of the German Embassy in Bangladesh, visits the Chamber on 27 October. The ensuing discussions emphasize the importance of Germany as a major trading partner and underscores the need for German investment, particularly in power generation.
- Mr James F Moriarty, the Ambassador of the United States of America in Bangladesh, and other officials of the US Embassy, visit the Chamber on 16 November and discuss issues of mutual interest. The Chamber urges the US Government to allow 100 percent duty-free market access to Bangladeshi products. The Ambassador appreciates the Chamber's concerns and suggests that the text of TIFA should be made public by the concerned authorities and an agreement on TIFA could act as the gateway of greater cooperation between the two countries.
- The 105th AGM is held on 31 December in the Chamber Conference Hall and 52 members are present.

2010

- A delegation from the Chamber, formed by the newly elected office bearers and led by the President, Mr M Anis Ud Dowla, calls on the Minister for Commerce, Mr Muhammad Faruk Khan, MP, at his Secretariat office on 5 January.
- An MCCI delegation led by its President calls on the Minister for Agriculture, Begum Matia Chowdhury, MP, at her office on 17 January, and discusses issues relating to the development of the agricultural sector of Bangladesh.
- Dr Muhammad Yunus, Nobel Laureate and the Managing Director of Grameen Bank, invites MCCI office bearers to his office on 15 February. The Chamber

invites him to visit MCCI and deliver a lecture on 'the Concept of Social Business—a Model for Creating a New Economic and Social Order'.

- The Chamber participates in an Investment Seminar on Bangladesh, held in Singapore on 23 February. At the seminar, Mr M Anis Ud Dowla, the Chamber President, presents a keynote paper titled 'Key Sectors and Projects for Investment on Private-Public Partnership Basis'.
- A delegation of the Chamber, led by its President, calls on the Minister for Finance, Mr Abul Maal Abdul Muhith, MP, at his office on 16 March. The delegation hands over a copy of the detailed budget proposal for the 2010-2011 Fiscal Year, previously submitted to the National Board of Revenue, and discusses it with the Finance Minister.
- A delegation from the African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET), led by Mr KY Amaoko, former UN Under-Secretary-General of Economic Commission for Africa, visits the Chamber on 27 March. The delegation discusses the common economic challenges faced by 'Least Developed Countries' (LDCs).
- Business leaders from the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) pay a courtesy visit to the Chamber on 12 April. The Chamber President receives them in the Chamber Conference Hall.
- The Chamber organizes a seminar on 'US-Bangladesh Trade and Economic Cooperation' on 6 May in the Chamber Conference Hall to discuss issues related to bilateral trade and economic cooperation between Bangladesh and USA. Ambassador, Mr Humayun Kabir, presents the keynote paper. High officials of the US embassy, leaders of the business community and trade bodies, senior government officials, and representatives of the media and civil society attend the seminar.
- MCCI introduces Annual Awards on environmental issues and holds its first award giving ceremony on 2 June. The Selection Committee, after vigorous examination and scrutiny, selects Mr Pinaki Roy of the Daily Star as the best investigative journalist, Mr SM Babu of ATN Bangla as the best investigative conductor of TV programmes on environmental pollution, particularly river pollution, and Echotex Limited as the best enterprise for exemplary initiative taken for effluent treatment.
- A Post-Budget discussion session is jointly organized by the Chamber and the Policy Research Institute in the Chamber Conference Hall on 20 June, where

views of the major business sectors are discussed by their respective representatives on the proposed National Budget of 2010-2011. Two renowned economists and former advisers to the Caretaker Government, Dr AB Mirza Azizul Islam and Dr Wahiduddin Mahmud, are present at the session as Special Guests.

- A seminar is jointly organized by the Chamber and the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport on 'Traffic Congestion and its Impact on Business: Some Remedial Measures' in the Chamber Conference Hall on 21 July. Different speakers and discussants suggest specific steps to be taken as short and long term measures to resolve traffic congestion in Dhaka City. The summary of the discussions at the seminar are sent to all concerned ministries and departments.
- A seminar is organized by the Chamber on 'Bangladesh-India Trade: A Closer Look' in the Chamber Conference Hall on 5 August. Various dignitaries including the Commerce Minister, Advisor to the Prime Minister, members of Parliament, former diplomats, economists, business leaders, and media personnel are present in the seminar. Mr Dipankar Chatterji, Chairman of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)- North East Council, India, presents his views on Bangladesh-India Trade.
- The first 'E-Content and ICT for Development Award 2010' is introduced jointly by the Ministry of Science and Information & Communication Technology of Bangladesh Government, and DNet, a private sector ICT company, at a ceremony held on 9 August, 2010. This award, in the first year of introduction, is given to Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka (MCCI) for its contribution to development of trade and commerce with a special focus on ICT promotion. The Chamber President, Mr M Anis Ud Dowla, on behalf of the Chamber, receives a memento from the organizers.
- The Chamber organizes a discussion meeting on 'Climate Change: Business Opportunities' on 25 August at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel. The focus of the discussion is on the issues of climate change and business opportunities arising from it. Eminent environmental scientist and the Vice-Chancellor of BRAC University, Professor Ainun Nishat, is the keynote speaker.
- A delegation from the Chamber calls on the Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Barrister Shafique Ahmed, at his office on 13 October. The delegation discusses the issue of constituting a draft law on Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) on VAT and Customs.
- The Chamber President, Mr M Anis Ud Dowla, on behalf of the Chamber, participates at the regional conference entitled 'Integrating BIMSTEC 2010' held

on 12 November in Guwahati, India. The Chamber President stresses the importance of concluding the regional BIMSTEC agreement at the earliest, in view of the setback in the negotiation of the Doha Round of WTO.

- The Chamber organizes a high level discussion on investment entitled 'Bangladesh: The Next Investment Destination' on 1 December. Among the distinguished persons who attend the discussion session as speakers are: Dr Jomo K Sundaram, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic and Social Development in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations, Mr Ashish Bharat Ram, Managing Director SRF Limited, India; and Mr Ulrik Federspiel, Vice President, Haldor Topsoe, Denmark.
- The Chamber decides to set up an Investment Facilitation Centre (IFC) with assistance from an international funding agency. The primary objective of the Centre is to provide a special role for MCCI as an organization capable of promoting and facilitating investment in the country.
- The 106th AGM is held on 27 December in the Chamber Conference Hall and 57 members are present.

2011

- A delegation from the Chamber, constituted by its newly elected office bearers and led by the President, Maj Gen Amjad Khan Chowdhury (Retd), calls on the Minister for Industries on 12 January, Minister for Commerce on 13 January and Minister for Foreign Affairs on 9 March. The Ministers congratulate the newly elected office bearers and take note of the concerns raised by the Chamber and thank the delegation for addressing issues crucial to the development of Bangladesh.
- An MCCI delegation, led by its President, calls on the Honorable Prime Minister, Sheikh Hasina, MP, at her office on 3 February. The members of the delegation present the Chamber's submission to the Prime Minister on a number of important issues relating to trade, commerce, investment, and employment. The Prime Minister takes keen interest in the Chamber's concerns and suggestions and thanks the delegation for addressing these important issues.
- MCCI, in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, organizes a stakeholder consultation meeting on 6 March in the Chamber Conference Hall. Various dignitaries, including the Minister for Food and Disaster Management, diplomats, economists, representatives from development partners, members from the business community, financial

institutions, think-tanks, civil society, stakeholders from the agricultural sector, and media personnel are present at the meeting to discuss the Country Investment Plan (CIP).

- Business leaders from the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) pay a courtesy visit to the Chamber on 8 May.
- The Chamber organizes a discussion meeting on 'Middle East and Japan Crises: Possible Impact on Bangladesh Economy' in the Chamber Conference Hall on 16 May. A keynote paper entitled 'Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and Japan Crises: Evidence from Macroeconomic Review and Call Reports', prepared by Mr Mamun Rashid and his team, is presented at the session.
- The Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh, Mr Rajeet Mitter, pays a courtesy visit to the Chamber on 23 May to meet its members. The issues of bilateral trade and economic cooperation are discussed. Among other issues, the concerns of the Business Community of Bangladesh over hurdles of obtaining a visa, and the prevailing Non-Tariff Barriers to trade, are addressed.
- MCCI organizes a High Profile Discussion Session on the theme 'Asia 2050 and Bangladesh' on 26 May at the Westin Hotel, Dhaka. This is in the context of a recently published report by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), entitled, 'Asia 2050: Realizing the Asian Century'. Dr Atiur Rahman, Governor of Bangladesh Bank is the keynote speaker and Dr Gowher Rizvi, Special Adviser (International Affairs) to the Prime Minister, is present as the Chief Guest.
- MCCI and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) jointly organize a seminar on 'Prosperity and Growth through Regional Cooperation' on 28 July at the Pan-Pacific Sonargaon Hotel, Dhaka. Dignitaries, including the Minister for Foreign Affairs, diplomats, economists, representatives from development partners, members from the business community, financial institutions, think-tanks, civil society and media personnel are present at the seminar and participate in the discussion.
- The Chamber organizes a discussion session entitled 'Higher Education vis-à-vis Skills Development: Exploration of Appropriateness' in the Chamber Conference Hall on 23 November. The Education Minister Mr Nurul Islam Nahid, MP, attends as the Chief Guest and Professor AK Azad Chowdhury, Chairman of the University Grants Commission, presents the keynote paper.
- The Chamber organizes a discussion session with its general members on Chamber matters at the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel on 17 December where all

member-firms are invited. The Minister for Industries Mr Dilip Barua is present at the dinner as the guest of honor.

- The 107th AGM is held on 27 December in the Chamber Conference Hall and 57 members are present.

2012

- A memorial meeting to pay homage to Late Samson H Chowdhury is organized jointly by ICC-Bangladesh, FBCCI, MCCI, DCCI and CCCI on 14 January. Mr Samson H Chowdhury, who passed away on 5 January 2012, was a former President of MCCI and one of the most illustrious business leaders of Bangladesh.
- A 4-member team, led by Mr Badal Rag from Times of India, the 3rd largest circulating newspaper in India, visits the Chamber on 24 January. The delegation discusses the importance of strengthening Bangladesh-India relationship and steps needed for further development.
- A delegation from the Chamber, led by one of the Chamber's Former Presidents, Mr M Anis Ud Dowla, visits Vietnam from April 6 to 9.
- An MCCI delegation led by the Chamber President, Maj Gen Amjad Khan Chowdhury (Retd), along with a few other members of the Committee, and general members and the Secretary-General of the MCCI, Mr Farooq Ahmed, visit Myanmar from 7 to 10 May.
- A luncheon is hosted on 23 May in honour of Former President, Mr Latifur Rahman, for receiving the Oslo Business Award for Peace 2012. 9 out of 13 former Presidents attend the ceremony.
- MCCI jointly organizes a pre-budget discussion with Maasranga Television on 15 May at Radisson Blu Water Garden Hotel, Dhaka, which is telecast live. The Chamber Vice-President, Barrister Ms Nihad Kabir, moderates the session, which is participated by eminent economists, journalists, business leaders, politicians, bureaucrats, and ordinary people from all walks of life. Stimulating discussions are held on major issues, including the macroeconomy, revenue collection, taxation and annual development.
- MCCI organizes a post-budget conference on the 'Budget 2012-2013' with the media in the Chamber Conference Hall on 13 June, jointly with the Policy Research Institute (PRI). Among important recommendations made during the budget discussions are: Limit Bank Borrowing; Modernise Revenue

Administration; Remove the new tax on Life Insurance Policy; Reduce of AIT on Exports at Source; Capacity Building for Effective and Transparent ADP Implementation; Concession for Undisclosed Income; Increase in the Agriculture Subsidy; and Restraining the Rising Trend in Para-Tariffs.

- MCCI and Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) jointly organize a discussion session on 'Bangladesh Trade Policy Framework for the Next Decade', on 3 July at Lakeshore Hotel, Dhaka.
- The Institute of Developing Economies, a specialized research wing of Japan External Trade Organization (IDE-JETRO), Japan requests the Chamber to conduct a joint research study entitled 'Current State of Industrial Sub-sectors in Bangladesh'. MCCI Secretariat and a team of consultants will conduct an enterprise level survey on nine industrial sectors during a 2-year period, starting July.
- MCCI wins a contract on 18 July from German International Development Cooperation (GIZ) through competitive bidding to conduct a study on 'Analysis of the Prevailing Non-Tariff Measures in SAARC Region'.
- The Industries Ministers and representatives of D-8 member countries, namely Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey, attend a 3 day-long event from October 8 to 10. The Chamber hosts a dinner on 10 October in honour of the D-8 delegation members at Hotel Ruposhi Bangla. Over 400 guests, including 6 ministers from Bangladesh and 5 ministers from D-8 member countries, attend the dinner.
- The Chamber organizes a discussion session on 'Trade Potentials in Russian Federation, Belarus, Ukraine, and Beyond' at the Dhaka Westin Hotel on 13 November. This is a follow-up event to the visit of the Hon'ble Prime Minister of Belarus to Bangladesh on November 11-13.
- The 108th AGM is held on 12 December in the Chamber Conference Hall and 40 members are present.

2013

- An MCCI team led by the Chamber President Ms Rokia Afzal Rahman meets the Governor, Bangladesh Bank, Dr Atiur Rahman, during the public consultation held on 18 January on formulating the next Monetary Policy Statement for January-June 2013 period.
- MCCI's Vice-President, Barrister Ms Nihad Kabir, makes a presentation on behalf of the Chamber to the Czech business delegation highlighting Bangladesh as a

potential destination for Czech investment when a Czech business delegation led by their Minister of Industry and Trade, Mr Martin Kuba, visits the Chamber and holds meetings and participates in a business seminar on 11 March.

- A seminar entitled 'EU-India FTA: Possible Impact on Bangladesh's Export' is jointly organized by the MCCI and Bangladesh Foreign Trade Institute (BFTI) in the Chamber Building on 20 March. Participants appreciate the initiative and consider it worthwhile to alert the business community on the possible impact.
- The Chamber, in collaboration with Maasranga Television, jointly organizes a live TV programme on 'Budget 2013-2014: Our Expectations' at the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel on 11 May. The programme is moderated by Barrister Ms Nihad Kabir, former Vice-President of the Chamber. Minister for Finance, Mr Abul Maal Abdul Muhith, MP, is present as the Chief Guest.
- At the request of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Chamber organizes a B2B meeting with private sector representatives of the USA under Bangladesh-USA Partnership Dialogue (Foreign Secretary Level) which is held at the Chamber Building on 27 May. The US team consists mainly of US citizens of Bangladesh, origin. The US Ambassador in Bangladesh, Mr Dan W Mozena, speaks on the occasion.
- The Chamber organizes a dialogue jointly with Policy Research Institute (PRI) on 'Emerging from Rana Plaza Tragedy: A 10 Point Reform Roadmap for a Sustainable Bangladesh RMG Sector' at Dhaka on 30 May.
- At the request of the Ministry of Women's and Children Affairs, MCCI organizes a panel discussion on 'Development of Women Entrepreneurship' which is followed by dinner at Ruposhi Bangla Hotel on 18 June, in honour of the visiting ministers and delegates of the 10th Commonwealth Women's Affairs Ministers Meeting (10WAMM) held in Dhaka. The Chamber President, Ms Rokia A Rahman, presents the keynote paper and the discussion is moderated by Mrs Luna Shamsuddoha.
- A discussion session on 'Views of the Business Community' on Budget 2013-2014 is jointly organized by the MCCI and Policy Research Institute (PRI) in the Chamber Building on 23 June.
- The Country Representative in Bangladesh for Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), Mr Kei Kawano, along with his colleagues, pay a courtesy visit to the Chamber on 8 July. MCCI conveys its desire to work with JETRO and indicates its

keenness to establish a long term working relationship between the two organizations.

- The 109th AGM is held on 21 December at the Lakeshore Hotel.

2014 (till April 30)

- A Chamber delegation, led by its President Ms Rokia Afzal Rahman, meets the Finance Minister Mr AMA Muhith on 22 January and Industries Minister Mr Amir Hossain Amu on 23 January.
- A Chamber delegation, led by its President, meets the Commerce Minister Mr Tofael Ahmed on 23 January.
- The Chamber, jointly with the Rangpur Chamber of Commerce and Industry, distributes blankets among the poor and vulnerable people of Rangpur in the last week of January.
- The Chamber hosts a dinner in honour of Mr Dipak C Jain, INSEAD Chair Professor of Marketing, and member of the Board of Directors of the Asian University of Women, in Dhaka on 6 February.
- An exchange of views on 'Introduction of Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) in Bangladesh', organized by MCCI, in collaboration with the National Board of Revenue (NBR), is held in Dhaka on 19 February.
- A delegation of the Chamber meets Dr Atiur Rahman, Governor of Bangladesh Bank, on 20 February and discusses important economic issues.
- The Chamber holds a luncheon meeting at the Chamber on 24 February where Mr Pankaj Saran, the High Commissioner of India, is the Chief Guest.
- The Chamber arranges a joint meeting of the business community with the Minister for Finance, Mr AMA Muhith MP, Minister for Commerce, Mr Tofael Ahmed MP and Minister for Industries, Mr Amir Hossain Amu MP, in the Chamber Office on 30 March.
- An MCCI delegation led by its President Ms Rokia Afzal Rahman visits New Delhi on 13-14 April and formally hands over the Chamber's letter of invitation to Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, former President of India, to be the keynote speaker during the Chamber's 110th anniversary celebration scheduled to be held on 18 October.
- A Chamber delegation calls on the President and Director General of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) on 14 April in New Delhi and invites them to participate in the Chamber's 110th anniversary celebration.
- A delegation from MCCI meets the Chairman of NBR at his office on 20 April and discusses the Chamber's proposals for the Government Budget 2014-15.

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Appendix -1

[No. 35.] [FILE No. 12-P-5 (1).] 10

Dated Narayanganj, the 7th July 1920.

From—The Honorary Secretary, Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Commerce Dept.

Homeward passages, season 1921.

In reply to your No. 133 T.—Com., dated the 15th June 1920, I am directed to say that my Committee are in favour of the institution of some sort of passage control in India for the coming season, in the event of no such control of passages to India being found possible at Home.

As regards the lines on which such control should be based, it appears to my Committee that the system of blue, red and white certificates suggested by you would, as nearly as possible, meet the case. My Committee also agree that these certificates should be used only for accommodation in steamers sailing between 14th February and 14th June. They would, however, suggest that all intending travellers from Home should be warned, when booking passages, that unless they can show that they had to come to India during the cold weather on *bonâ fide* business, they cannot expect anything but a white certificate, which would give *bonâ fide* business-people and residents of India preference over them in the allotment of berths for the journey back from India to England.

[No. 8.] [FILE No. 7-M-1 (8).]

Dated Narayanganj, the 13th December 1921.

From—The Honorary Secretary, Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce,

To—The Under Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

With reference to your letter No. 5366 Com., dated the 30th November 1921, I have the honour to inform you that this Chamber considers the suggestion for the outgoing mail to leave Bombay on a Friday and the incoming mail to arrive on a Saturday a very excellent arrangement, and has no comments to pass so long as the mail is weekly and regular.

Appendix - 2

[Sir William H Vincent, Secretary to the Govt. of India, Legislative Dept. wrote letters on "A Bill to Amend the Indian Companies Act, 1913" to the Secretaries/ Chief Secretaries/ Assistant Secretaries to the Provincial Govt. and Chief Commissioners of the Provinces. After receiving this letter the Under Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal forwarded a copy of the Bill to the Head/ Secretary of the relevant Departments, Trade Bodies, Associations, Chamber of Commerce and Industries. Here is a letter written by the Honorary Secretary of the NCC in replying to the Chamber's opinion to the Under-Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal reproduced from the original documents.]

Government of Bengal, Financial Department
Commerce, No 40, File 4A/7

Dated: Narayanganj, the 26 August 1913.

From- The Honorary Secretary, Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce,

To- The Under-Secretary, to the Govt. of Bengal, General Dept.

I BEG to acknowledge your letter No. 789 T. – G., dated the 5 June 1913, and subsequent reminders.

I beg to apologize for the delay in answering this, and I am directed by the Committee to inform you that, as the firms in Narayanganj are practically all connected directly or indirectly with Calcutta Houses, the Narayanganj Chamber would not wish to express any separate opinion of its own on the question of amending the Indian Companies' Act 1913, but would prefer to follow the opinion expressed by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

Appendix - 3

[Govt. of India, Dept. of Commerce and Industry, No 9196, dated the 8 August 1917, and enclose, requesting that the opinion of this Govt. may be submitted with the views of the local Chambers of Commerce on the "Proposal to Suppress the Adulteration of Indian Produce Before Export" and measures suitable to remedy it. Mr AL Godden, the Honorary Secretary of the NCC replied with the Chamber's view to the Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India, Dept. of Commerce and Industry on 7 September, 1917. On 17 October 1917, Mr Godden forwarded a copy of this letter to the Under-Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal, Commerce Dept. Here is two letters written by AL Godden, the Honorary Secretary of the NCC, in replying with Chamber's opinion to the Deputy Secretary of the Govt. of India and a forwarding letter to the Under-Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal reproduced from the original documents.]

No 14

File 10-A - 1(5)

Dated: Narayanganj, the 17 October 1917

From- AL Godden, Honorary Secretary, Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce,

To- The Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Commerce Department.

With reference to your letter No. 5423 Com., dated Calcutta, the 13 October 1917, I have the honour to send you herewith copy of my letter, dated the 7 September 1917.

Dated: Narayanganj, the 7 September 1917

From- AL Godden, Esq., Honorary Secretary, Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce,

To- The Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Commerce of Industry.

Referring to your letter No. 9196 Department of Commerce and Industry, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal, dated Simla, the 8 August 1917, a copy of which was sent to me by the Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Calcutta, I have the honour to state that, as regards the adulteration of jute, this only occurs previous to its sale by the raiyat to the buyer when the jute is often watered. Government has already stated it is impossible to legislate against this. There is no adulteration of export jute.

Appendix - 4

[Govt. of India, Dept. of Industries and Labour, No 1192, dated the 9 October 1924, forwarding for this Govt.'s opinion copy of a Bill titled "Periods of Wage Payment Bill" introduced in the Legislative Assembly to make provision for the payment of wages on a weekly basis. After receiving this letter from the Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal (No 2157 T.Com., dated 22 October), Mr RN Story, the Honorary Secretary of the NCC wrote back a letter with the Chamber's opinion/view to the Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal, Dept. of Commerce on 25 November, 1924. Here is the letter written by Mr Story, the Honorary Secretary of the NCC, to the Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal reproduced from the original documents.]

No. 9**File No. 1A - 22 (8)**

Dated: Narayanganj, the 25 November 1924

From- RN STORY Esq., Honorary Secretary, Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce,

To- The Secretary, to the Government of Bengal, Commerce Department.

Periods of Wage Payment.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt to your letter No. 2157 T. -Com., dated 22 October 1924.

In reply, I am directed to state that this Chamber strongly object to the application of piecemeal legislation to labour in their employ.

Whatever may be the case in mills in Bombay, worker in jute factories and other concerns in this area are not required to subsist on credit for any time, as a system of advances against wages is in general use.

In fact it is frequently the employer who has to wait several months for a return against the money so advanced.

A less serious objection is the extra clerical work and consequent expense of settling accounts 52 times in a year instead of 12 times as at present under a monthly basis; but in the case of Inland Navigation Companies, whose labour is constantly on the move, the difficulty of arranging payment at regular intervals would be practically unsurmountable.

The Chamber also consider that the effect on labour would be to encourage the unsatisfactory type of worker who changes his employment continually throughout the season. The ideal of such continuity of employment as to maintain efficiency of work is sufficiently difficult to achieve without shortening the contract basis of time, and it is doubtful whether such a measure would be welcome to the worker themselves.

Appendix - 5

Govt. of India, Dept. of Industries and Labour, No L-925, dated the 30 August 1924, forwarding Trade Union Bill and requesting the views of this Government. After receiving this letter from the Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal, Commerce Dept. (Letter No 1073 T. Com., dated 8 September), the Honorary Secretary of the NCC wrote back a letter with the Chamber's opinion/view to the Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal, Dept. of Commerce on 12 November, 1924. Here is the letter written by the Honorary Secretary of the NCC to the Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal reproduced from the original documents.

No 155

File No 1-A - 14 (27)

Dated: Narayanganj, the 12 November 1924.

From- Honorary Secretary, Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce,

To- The Secretary, to the Government of Bengal, Commerce Department.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt to your letter No. 1073 T. -Com., dated 8 September 1924.

In reply, I am directed to state the members of this Chamber are of the opinion that as far as the jute trade, which they represent, is concerned, the need for trade union legislation has not yet arisen. There is as yet no indication of any desire by labour here to form a union; it is true that in the mill areas during strikes there have been persons who claimed to represent the workers, but these have been proved to merely political agitators with no genuine connection with the workers, and without any true regard for their welfare.

This Chamber therefore consider that the introduction of such a bill would merely encourage the formation of organizations which neither the workers nor employers need or desire at present.

Appendix - 6		
LIST OF FORMER PRESIDENTS WITH NAMES OF THEIR COMPANIES		
Year	Former Presidents	Company
1947	CEC Guthrie	IGN & RSN Co. Ltd
1948	CEC Guthrie	IGN & RSN Co. Ltd
1949	DP Fafalios	Rally Brothers Ltd
1950	AC Baxter	-----
1951	CEC Guthrie	IGN & RSN Co. Ltd
1952	AR Faridi	Burmah Shell Oil Storage & Distributing Co. of Pakistan Ltd
1953	RWN Ferguson	Kilburn & Co. (Pakistan) Ltd
1954	A Jalil	Amin Jute Baling Co. Ltd
1955	MM Ispahani	MM Ispahani Limited
1956	MM Ispahani	MM Ispahani Limited
1957	AA Khalon	The Pakbay Co. Ltd
1958	WR Longwill	James Finlay & Co. Ltd
1959	M Naser-ud-Deen Khan	Burmah-Shell Oil Storage & Distributing Co. of Pakistan Ltd
1960	MM Ispahani	MM Ispahani Limited
1961	AA Khalon	The Pakbay Co. Ltd
1962	A Ahad	Orr, Dignam & Co.
1963	MH Adamjee	Adamjee Jute Mills Ltd
1964	M Ilahi	Amin Jute Baling Co. Ltd
1965	YA Bawany	Aesons Limited
1966	AA Khalon	The Pakbay Co. Ltd
1967	M Ilahi	Amin Jute Baling Co. Ltd
1968	M Ilahi	Amin Jute Baling Co. Ltd
1969	Rashid Ahmed	Sinclair Murray (Pakistan) Ltd
1970	Rashid Ahmed	Sinclair Murray (Pakistan) Ltd
1971	A Qayyum	Pakistan River Steamers Ltd.
1972	Kamruddin Ahmed	Orr, Dignam & Co.
1973	Kamruddin Ahmed	Orr, Dignam & Co.
1974	Kamruddin Ahmed	Orr, Dignam & Co.
1975	FK Ghuznavi	ICI Bangladesh Ltd
1976	Rashid Ahmed	Sinclair Murray (Bangladesh) Ltd
1977	M Anis Ud Dowla	Bangladesh Oxygen Ltd
1978	M Anis Ud Dowla	Bangladesh Oxygen Ltd

1979	SH Kabir	Pfizer Laboratories (BD) Ltd
1980	Mushfeq-US-Saleheen	International Finance & Investment Co. Ltd
1981	M Morshed Khan	Pacific Motors Limited
1982	M Morshed Khan	Pacific Motors Limited
1983	Zeaul Huq	Orioxi Ltd
1984	SH Kabir	Pfizer Laboratories (BD) Ltd
1985	MR Siddiqi	SIDKO Limited
1986	MR Siddiqi	SIDKO Limited
1987	Habibullah Khan	Ganges Motors Limited
1988	Habibullah Khan	Ganges Motors Limited
1989	Salman F Rahman	Bangladesh Export Import Co. Ltd
1990	Syed Manzur Elahi	Apex Tannery Limited
1991	Syed Manzur Elahi	Apex Tannery Limited
1992	M Morshed Khan	Pacific Motors Limited
1993	Latifur Rahman	Transcom Limited
1994	Latifur Rahman	Transcom Limited
1995	M Anis Ud Dowla	ACI Limited
1996	Samson H Chowdhury	Square Pharmaceuticals Limited
1997	Samson H Chowdhury	Square Pharmaceuticals Limited
1998	Laila Rahman Kabir	Kedarpur Tea Company Ltd
1999	Mahbub Jamil	Singer Bangladesh Limited
2000	Latifur Rahman	Transcom Limited
2001	Latifur Rahman	Transcom Limited
2002	Tapan Chowdhury	Square Pharmaceuticals Limited
2003	Tapan Chowdhury	Square Pharmaceuticals Limited
2004	Kutubuddin Ahmed	Envoy Garments Limited
2005	Kutubuddin Ahmed	Envoy Garments Limited
2006	Latifur Rahman	Transcom Limited
2007	Latifur Rahman	Transcom Limited
2008	Latifur Rahman	Transcom Limited
2009	Abdul Hafiz Choudhury, FCA	Rahman Rahman Huq
2010	M Anis Ud Dowla	ACI Limited
2011	Amjad Khan Chowdhury	Agricultural Marketing Co. Ltd
2012	Amjad Khan Chowdhury	Agricultural Marketing Co. Ltd
2013	Ms Rokia Afzal Rahman	Arlinks Limited

Appendix - 7

LIST OF CHAMBER COMMITTEES (1949-2014)

1949

President: DP Fafalios, AC Baxter; **Vice President:** SL Gold; **Members:** CEC Guthire, IGH Ariff, AB Baikie, AD Boldy, PN Flangini, ARY Smith, MM Ispahani; **Secretary:** Jack Garcia

1950

President: AC Baxter, AD Boldy; **Vice President:** SL Gold, CEC Guthire; **Members:** IGH Ariff, AB Baikie, MM Ispahani, JM Addison Scott, PN Flangini, ARY Smith, W Leslie; **Secretary:** Jack Garcia

1951

President: CEC Guthire, DP Fafalios; **Vice President:** MM Ispahani; **Members:** AB Baikie, DP Fafalios, A Jalil, AA Kahlon, VAD Howard, OW Lugg, AR Faridi, JW Young, TF Stainthorpe, W Leslie, ARY Smith, JM Addison Scott, IGH Ariff, AB Fairfoul; **Secretary:** Jack Garcia

1952

President: AR Faridi, RWN Ferguson; **Vice President:** TL Swales, A Jalil; **Members:** MM Ispahani, AB Baikie, DP Fafalios, AD Boldy, AA Kahlon, TF Stainthrope, JW Young, RWN Ferguson, KM Nasimullah, M Vlasto, NG Smith; **Secretary:** Jack Garcia

1953

President: RWN Ferguson, A Jalil (Acting President); **Vice President:** A Jalil; **Members:** AB Baikie, MM Ispahani, AD Boldy, AA Kahlon, TL Swales, RBF Garrard, M Heald, RWN Ferguson, AR Faridi, AB Fairfoul, RT Neimeyer; **Secretary:** Jack Garcia

1954

President: A Jalil; **Vice President:** WR Longwill; **Members:** AB Baikie, AD Boldy, DL Penny, TAT Whitby, MM Ispahani, AA Kahlon, TL Swales, DP Fafalios; **Secretary:** Jack Garcia; **Deputy Secretary:** K Mohyuddin

1955

President: A Jalil, MM Ispahani; **Vice President:** WR Longwill; **Members:** TL Swales, AB Baikie, A Dada, DL Penny, TAT Whitby, M Heald, DCW Watkin, MM Ispahani, WR Longwill, GC Maclean, H Wintle, AA Kahlon; **Secretary:** Jack Garcia; **Deputy Secretary:** K Mohyuddin

1956

President: MM Ispahani; **Vice President:** H Wintle; **Members:** Mohamed Hanif Adamjee, JM Dizer, Ahmed Dada, M Heald, M Ilahi, AA Kahlon, TL Swales; **Secretary:** Jack Garcia; **Deputy Secretary:** K Mohyuddin; **Assistant Secretary:** M Ebraheem

1957

President: AA Kahlon; **Vice President:** WR Longwill; **Members:** MM Ispahani, H Wintle, DL Penny, Ahmed Dada, M Naser-ud-Deen Khan, M Heald, TL Swales; **Secretary:** Jack Garcia; **Acting Secretary:** K Mohyuddin; **Deputy Secretary:** KS Shahabuddin; **Assistant Secretary:** M Ebraheem

1958

President: WR Longwill; **Vice President:** M Naser-ud-Deen Khan; **Members:** M Heald, MM Ispahani, AA Kahlon, RH Martin, DL Penny, TL Swales, JR Williamson; **Joint Secretaries:** KS Shahabuddin, MZ Ahmed; **Deputy Secretary:** KS Shahabuddin; **Assistant Secretaries:** M Ebraheem, AW Chalmers

1959

President: M Naser-ud-Deen Khan; **Vice President:** JR Williamson; **Members:** A Ahad, MH Adamjee, M Heald, MM Ispahani, AA Kahlon, WR Longwill, TL Swales; **Joint Secretaries:** KS Shahabuddin, MZ Ahmed; **Assistant Secretaries:** AW Chalmers, MH Kashani

1960

President: MM Ispahani; **Vice President:** WR Longwill; **Members:** MH Adamjee, A Ahad, AR Cavers, M Heald, AA Kahlon, M Afzal Khan, GR Mothersill; **Secretary:** MZ Ahmed; **Assistant Secretary:** AW Chalmers

1961

President: AA Kahlon; **Vice President:** WR Longwill; **Members:** A Ahad, AR Cavers, M Heald, MM Ispahani, A Jalil, M Afzal Khan, DL Penny; **Secretary:** MZ Ahmed; **Assistant Secretary:** AW Chalmers

1962

President: A Ahad; **Vice President:** GR Mothersill; **Members:** WR Longwill, MH Adamjee, MM Ispahani, A Jalil, M Afzal Khan, M Heald, WHS Ravenscroft, AFR Stephen; **Secretary:** MZ Ahmed

1963

President: AH Adamjee; **Vice President:** WHS Ravenscroft; **Members:** M Ilahi, AA Kahlon, M Afzal Khan, OW Lugg, GR Mothersill, R Rahman, AFR Stephen; **Secretary:** MZ Ahmed; **Assistant Secretary:** JR Khan

1964

President: Maqbul Ilahi; **Vice President:** OW Lugg; **Members:** R Amin Ahmed, Rashid Ahmed, M Yawer Ali, Munsurul Ameen, Mohsin Asgar, YA Bawany, M Heald, KM Nasimullah; **Secretary:** MZ Ahmed; **Assistant Secretary:** JR Khan

1965

President: YA Bawany; **Vice President:** WR Longwill; **Members:** A Ahad, R Amin Ahmed, Rashid Ahmed, M Yawer Ali, Mansurul Amin, Mohsin Asgar, M Heald, AA Kahlon, Y Amanullah Khan; **Secretary:** MZ Ahmed; **Assistant Secretary:** CK Hyder

1966

President: Anwar a Kahlon; **Vice President:** M Heald; **Members:** AG Adamjee, A Ahad, R Amin Ahmed, Mansurul Amin, Mohsin Asgar, SM Doja, Aziz A Khan, Y Amanullah Khan, WR Longwill; **Secretary:** MZ Ahmed; **Assistant Secretary:** CK Hyder

1967

President: Maqbul Ilahi; **Vice President:** WR Longwill; **Members:** AG Adamjee, A Ahad, R Ameen, SM Doja, FA Dossani, R Grant, Anwar A Kahlon, Aziz A Khan, Y Amanullah Khan, KS Shahabuddin; **Secretary:** MZ Ahmed; **Assistant Secretary:** CK Hyder

1968

President: Maqbul Ilahi; **Vice President:** SM Doja; **Members:** AG Adamjee, Rashid Ahmed, M Ahsanullah, M Yawer Ali, R Ameen, YA Bawany, FA Dossani, JHA Gibson, A Qayyum, Aziz A Khan, KS Shahabuddin; **Secretary:** MZ Ahmed; **Deputy Secretary:** CK Hyder

1969

President: Rashid Ahmed; **Vice President:** KS Shahabuddin; **Members:** R Amin Ahmed, Erfan Ahmed, M Ahsanullah, M Yawer Ali, Rafiqul Ameen, YA Bawany, FA Dossani, JHA Gibson, M Ilahi, CM Murshed, A Qayyum; **Secretary:** MZ Ahmed; **Deputy Secretary:** CK Hyder

1970

President: Rashid Ahmed; **Vice President:** KS Shahabuddin, R Amin Ahmed; **Members:** Erfan Ahmad, M Ahsanullah, M Yawer Ali, Rafiqul Ameen, YA Bawany, Mansurul Ameen, A Latif, WR Longwill, Mohammad Bhai, CM Murshed, Y Amanullah Khan, Nawab Khaja Hasan Askari, A Qayyum; **Secretary:** MZ Ahmed; **Deputy Secretary:** CK Hyder

1971

President: A Qayyum; **Vice President:** WR Longwill; **Members:** Nawab Khaja Hasan Askari, Mohammad Bhai, SM Doja, R Grant, Anwar A Kahlon, Amanullah Khan, CM Murshed, Md. Saifur Rahman, Mansurul Ameen, A Latif, R Amin Ahmad, Sabethur Rahman; **Secretary:** MZ Ahmad; **Joint Secretary:** CK Hyder

1972

President: A Qayyum, Kamruddin Ahmad; **Vice President:** Md. Saifur Rahman; **Members:** Nawab Khaja Hasan Askari, SM Doja, R Grant, Sabethur Rahman, Amanullah Khan, CM Murshed, Rafiqul Ameen, M Anis ud Dawla, Qazi Fazlur Rahman, K Atkinson, Mansurul Ameen, Zeaul Huq, Ahmad Yusuff, HHV Spreadbury; **Secretary:** CK Hyder

1973

President: Kamruddin Ahmad; **Vice President:** Md Saifur Rahman; **Members:** Rafiqul Ameen, M Anisuddowla, Nawab Khwaja Hasan Askari, K Atkison, FK Ghuznavi, Zeaul Huq, Ghulam Husein, Ashfaque Hussain Khan, Sabethur Rahman, EC Rebeiro, HHV Spreadbury; **Secretary:** CK Hyder

1974

President: Kamruddin Ahmad; **Vice President:** FK Ghuznavi; **Members:** M Anis ud Dowla, K Atkison (BR McEntegart), Ghulam Husein, Sabethur Rahman, EC Rebeiro, Rafiqul Ameen (MA Sattar), Rashid Ahmed, Ashfaque Hussain Khan, M Mashiur Rahman, CM Murshed; **Secretary:** CK Hyder

1975

President: FK Ghuznavi; **Vice President:** BR McEntegart; **Members:** Rashid Ahmed, K Kamrul Hoda, Zeaul Huq, Ghulam Husein, Ashfaque Hussain Khan, Manzur Morshed Khan, RGI Leonard, CM Murshed, M Masihur Rahman, EC Rebeiro, MA Sattar; **Secretary:** CK Hyder

1976

President: Rashid Ahmed; **Vice President:** BR McEntegart; **Members:** RGI Leonard (JG Perkins), JA Noe, Rezaur Rahman, EC Rebeiro, K Kamrul Hoda, Zeaul Huq, Manzur Morshed Khan, MA Sattar, M Mashiur Rahman, Tofael Ahmad; **Secretary:** CK Hyder

1977

President: M Anis ud Dowla; **Vice President:** M Morshed Khan; **Members:** Badruddin Ahmad, K Kamrul Hoda, Zeaul Huq, SH Kabir, BR McEntegart, JA Noe, Rezaur Rahman, Sabethur Rahman, EC Rebeiro, MA Sattar, Tofael Ahmad, KA Rashid; **Secretary:** CK Hyder

1978

President: M Anisuddowla; **Vice President:** SH Kabir; **Members:** Badruddin Ahmed, M Tofael Ahmed, Syed Mohsen Ali, FK Ghuznavi, JA Noe, ASF Rahman, Sabethur Rahman, KA Rashid, EC Rebeiro, Mushfeq-us-Saleheen; **Secretary:** CK Hyder

1979

President: SH Kabir; **Vice President:** M Mushfeq-us-Saleheen; **Members:** Badruddin Ahmed, Syed Fazle Ali, M Anisuddowla, Ghulam Husein, Sabethur Rahman, M Shamsul Alam, Syed Mohsen Ali, FK Ghuznavi, ASF Rahman, KA Rashid, MR Siddiqi; **Secretary:** CK Hyder

1980

President: M Mushfeq-us-Saleheen; **Vice President:** M Morshed Khan; **Members:** Rashid Ahmed, Syed Fazle Ali, SA Azim, RW Keast, ASF Rahman, M Shamsul Alam, Syed Mohsen Ali, FK Ghuznavi, Ghulam Husein Padamsee, KA Rashid, MR Siddiqi; **Secretary:** CK Hyder

1981

President: M Morshed Khan; **Vice President:** Rashid Ahmed; **Members:** M Shamsul Alam, SA Azim, Zeaul Huq, Hafizul Islam, Ghulam Husein Padamsee, Anwarul Amin, AKM Mosharaf Hossain, KA Huque, RW Keast, MR Siddiqi, AM Agha Yusuf; **Secretary:** CK Hyder

1982

President: M Morshed Khan; **Vice President:** Rashid Ahmed; **Members:** Iftekhharul Alam, M Anisuddowla, AKM Mosharaf Hossain, KA Huque, Aminul Islam Khan, Anwarul Amin, SA Azim, Zeaul Huq, RW Keast, Ghulam Husein Padamsee, AM Agha Yusuf; **Secretary:** CK Hyder

1983

President: Zeaul Huq; **Vice President:** SH Kabir; **Members:** Iftekhharul Alam, Anwarul Amin, FK Ghuznavi, AKM Mosharaf Hossain, Sabethur Rahman, Syed Mohsen Ali, Syed Manzur Elahi, Rashid-ul Hasan, KA Huque, AM Agha Yusuf; **Secretary:** CK Hyder

1984

President: SH Kabir; **Vice President:** Syed Mohsen Ali; **Members:** Iftekhharul Alam, Alan J Cooper, FK Ghuznavi, Admiral MH Khan, Sabethur Rahman, Samson H Chowdhury, Syed Manzur Elahi, Rashid-ul Hasan, MR Siddiqi; **Secretary:** CK Hyder

1985

President: MR Siddiqi; **Vice President:** Syed Manzur Elahi; **Members:** Syed Mohsin Ali, Alan J Cooper, Ashrafal Haque, SH Kabir, Ghulam Husein A Padamsee, Samson H Chowdhury, FK Ghuznavi, Rashid-ul Hasan, Rear Admiral MH Khan, Md Nefaur Rahman, Sabethur Rahman; **Secretary:** CK Hyder

1986

President: MR Siddiqi; **Vice President:** Habibullah Khan; **Members:** Samson H Chowdhury, AKM Ghaffar, Kazi Kamrul Hoda, Zeaul Haq, Admiral MH Khan, Alan J Cooper, GG Hardwicke, AKM Mosharaf Hossain, AHM Kamaluddin; Harunar Rashid Khan, Ghulam Husein A Padamsee; **Secretary:** CK Hyder

1987

President: Habibullah Khan; **Vice President:** HR Khan; **Members:** AKM Ghaffar, KK Hoda, Zeaul Huq, A Hasnat Khan, Salman F Rahman, GG Hardwicke, AKM Mosharaf Hossain, AHM Kamaluddin, Ghulam Husein A Padamsee, Latifur Rahman, Ramzul Seraj; **Secretary:** CK Hyder

1988

President: Habibullah Khan; **Vice President:** HR Khan; **Members:** SA Azim, K Kamrul Hoda, AHM Kamaluddin, Salman F Rahman, Ramzul Seraj, AKM Ghaffar, Zeaul Huq, A Hasnat Khan, Latifur Rahman, AG Stuart, Mohd. Toha; **Secretary:** CK Hyder

1989

President: Salman F Rahman; **Vice President:** Syed Manzur Elahi; **Members:** Zamal Uddin Ahmed, M Anis Ud Dowla, Samson H Chowdhury, AHM Kamaluddin, Latifur Rahman, Iftekharul Alam, SA Azim, M Dumetz, Abul Hasnat Khan, Md Nefaur rahman, Ramzul Seraj; **Secretary:** CK Hyder

1990

President: Syed Manzur Elahi; **Vice President:** Samson H Chowdhury; **Members:** Jamal Uddin Ahmed, M Shamsul Alam, M Anis Ud Dowla, Abdul Hafiz Choudhury, Mahbub Jamil, Iftekharul Alam, M Sekander Ali, SA Azim, M Dumetz, M Morshed Khan, Md Nefaur rahman; **Secretary:** CK Hyder

1991

President: Syed Manzur Elahi; **Vice President:** Samson H Chowdhury; **Members:** Jamal Uddin Ahmed, M Shamsul Alam, Khurshid Azam, M Dumetz, Mahbub Jamil, Iftekharul Alam, M Anis Ud Dowla, Abdul Hafiz Choudhury, Zeaul Huq, M Morshed Khan, Azimur Rahman; **Secretary-General:** CK Hyder

1992

President: M Morshed Khan; **Vice President:** Latifur Rahman; **Members:** M Shamsul Alam, Malcolm Fry, Zeaul Huq, SH Kabir, Azimur radhman, Khurshid Azam, K Kamrul Hoda, Mahbub Jamil, Habibullah Khan, Salman F Rahman; **Secretary-General:** CK Hyder

1993

President: Latifur Rahman; **Vice President:** Azimur Rahman; **Members:** Khurshid Azam, M Ahsanul Haque, Zeaul Haq, Habibullah Khan, Salman F Rahman, AKM Gaffar, K Kamrul Hoda, SH Kabir, Joya Pati, IS Sangster, Feisal Siddiqi; **Secretary-General:** CK Hyder

1994

President: Latifur Rahman; **Vice President:** Azimur Rahman; **Members:** M Anis Ud Dowla, Gen Amjad Khan, M Ahsanul Haque, Habibullah Khan, Salman F Rahman, SA Azim, AKM Gaffar, K Kamrul Hoda, Joya Pati, IS Sangster, Feisal Siddiqi; **Secretary-General:** CK Hyder

1995

President: M Anis Ud Dowla; **Vice President:** Samson H Chowdhury; **Members:** Iftekharul Alam, SA Azim, Gen Amjad Khan, Frank Gamble, Joya Pati, Syed Tareque Md Ali, Abdul Hapiz Choudhury, A Rahim Chowdhury, M Ahsanul Haque, Afroz Rahim, Feisal Siddiqi; **Secretary-General:** CK Hyder

1996

President: Samson H Chowdhury; **Vice President:** Gen Amjad Khan Chowdhury; **Members:** Zafar Ahmed, M Shamsul Alam, M Anis Ud Dowla, Abdul Hapiz Choudhury, Laila Rahman Kabir, Iftekharul Alam, Syed Tareque Md Ali, SA Azim, Frank Gamble, Golam Mustafa, Afroz Rahim; **Secretary-General:** CK Hyder

1997

President: Samson H Chowdhury; **Vice President:** Laila Rahman Kabir; **Members:** Zafar Ahmed, M Shamsul Alam, Syed Tareque Md Ali, A Hapiz Choudhury, Asghar Karim, Iftekharul Alam, Muhammad A Ali, M Anis Ud Dowla, Mahbub Jamil, Golam Mustafa, Afroz Rahim; **Secretary-General:** CK Hyder

1998

President: Laila Rahman Kabir; **Vice President:** M Shamsul Alam; **Members:** Zafar Ahmed, MA Awal, A Rahim Chowdhury, Asghar Karim, Ramzul Seraj, MC Alam, AQI Chowdhury, Mahbub Jamil, Latifur Rahman, Feisal Siddiqi, Geoff Williams; **Secretary-General:** CK Hyder

1999

President: Mahbub Jamil; **Vice President:** Asghar Karim; **Members:** CM Alam, Waliur Rahman Bhuiyan, A Rahim Chowdhury, KZ Islam, Latifur Rahman, MA Awal, AQI Chowdhury, Francis Dubus, Habibullah Khan, Ramzul Seraj, Feisal Siddiqi; **Secretary-General:** CK Hyder

2000

President: Latifur Rahman; **Vice President:** CM Alam; **Members:** A Rahim Chowdhury, Abdul Hafiz Choudhury, Tapan Chowdhury, KZ Islam, Ramjul Seraj, MA Awal, AQI Chowdhury, Waliur Rahman Bhuiyan, Habibullah Khan, Feisal Siddiqi; **Secretary-General:** CK Hyder

2001

President: Latifur Rahman; **Vice President:** Tapan Chowdhury; **Members:** CM Alam, SA Azim, Maj Gen Amjad Khan, AKM Rafiqul Islam, Masih Ul Karim, Jean Alfonsi, Abdul Hafiz Choudhury, Syed Fazlul Haque, KZ Islam, Habibullah Khan, Shahab Sattar; **Secretary-General:** CK Hyder

2002

President: Tapan Chowdhury; **Vice President:** Abdul Hafiz Choudhury; **Members:** Jean Alfonsi, Muhammad A (Rume) Ali, Maj Gen Amjad Khan, Md Nurul Islam, Masih Ul Karim, Feroz Rahim, Syed Anwarul Azim, Syed Fazlul Haque, AKM Rafiqul Islam, AK Shamsuddin Khan, Shahab Sattar; **Secretary-General:** CK Hyder

2003

President: Tapan Chowdhury; **Vice President:** Abdul Hafiz Choudhury; **Members:** Syed Anwarul Azim, David JH Griffiths, AKM Rafiqul Islam, Masih Ul Karim, Feroz Rahim, Maj Gen Amjad Khan, Md Nurul Islam, Mahbub Jamil, AK Shamsuddin Khan, Rokia A Rahman; Shahab Sattar; **Secretary-General:** CK Hyder

2004

President: Kutubuddin Ahmed; **Vice President:** Shahab Sattar; **Members:** Abdul Hafiz Choudhury, David JH Griffiths, AKM Rafiqul Islam, AKM Shamsuddin Khan, Feroz Rahim, Tapan Chowdhury, Md Nurul Islam, Obaidur Rahman Khan, Syed Nasim Manzur, Rokia A Rahman, Waliur Rahman Bhuiyan; **Secretary-General:** CK Hyder

2005

President: Kutubuddin Ahmed; **Vice President:** AKM Rafiqul Islam; **Members:** AKM Shamsul Alam, Abdul Hafiz Choudhury, M Anis Ud Dowla, Obaidur Rahman Khan, Feroz Rahim, Steve Banner, Tapan Chowdhury, Md Nurul Islam, Syed Nasim Manzur, Rokia A Rahman, Shahab Sattar; **Secretary-General:** CK Hyder

2006

President: Latifur Rahman; **Vice President:** AKM Rafiqul Islam; **Members:** Kutubuddin Ahmed, M Anis Ud Dowla, Imtiaz Husain, Syed Nasim Manzur, M Shamsul Alam, Steve Banner, Md Nurul Islam, Obaidur Rahman Khan, Feroz Rahim, Shahab Sattar; **Secretary-General:** CK Hyder

2007

President: Latifur Rahman; **Vice President:** Feroz Rahim; **Members:** M Shamsul Alam, Nasir A Choudhury, M Anis Ud Dowla, Md Nurul Islam, Nihad Kabir, Steve Banner, Maj Gen Amjad Khan Chowdhury, Imtiaz Husain, Mahbub Jamil, Obaidur Rahman Khan, Syed Nasim Manzur; **Secretary-General:** CK Hyder

2008

President: Latifur Rahman; **Vice President:** Abdul Hafiz Choudhury; **Members:** M Anis Ud Dowla, Nasir A Choudhury, Maj Gen Amjad Khan Chowdhury, Nihad Kabir, Steve Banner, Anjan Chowdhury, M Azizul Huq, Imtiaz Husain, Mahbub Jamil, Obaidur Rahman Khan, Syed Nasim Manzur; **Secretary-General:** CK Hyder

2009

President: Abdul Hafiz Choudhury; **Vice President:** Syed Nasim Manzur; **Members:** Syed Abu Naser Bukhtear Ahmed, Nasir A Choudhury, Maj Gen Amjad Khan Chowdhury, AKM Rafiqul Islam, Nihad Kabir, M Anis Ud Dowla, Anjan Chowdhury, M Azizul Huq, Anis A Khan, Obaidur Rahman Khan, Golam Mainuddin; **Adviser to the Committee:** CK Hyder; **Secretary-General:** Farooq Ahmed

2010

President: M Anis Ud Dowla; **Vice President:** Syed Nasim Manzur; **Members:** Syed Tareque Md Ali, Anjan Chowdhury, M Azizul Huq, Nihad kabir, Golam Mainuddin, Abdul Hafiz Choudhury, Maj Gen Amjad Khan Chowdhury, AKM Rafiqul Islam, Anis A Khan, Kamran T Rahman, Mamun Rashid; **Adviser to the Committee:** CK Hyder; **Secretary-General:** Farooq Ahmed

2011

President: Maj Gen Amjad Khan Chowdhury; **Vice President:** Nihad Kabir; **Members:** Syed Tareque Md Ali, Akhter Matin Chaudhury, Anjan Chowdhury, M Azizul Huq, AKM Rafiqul Islam, Habibullah N Karim, Anis A Khan, Adeeb Hossain Khan, Golam Mainuddin, Feroz Rahim, Kamran T Rahman; **Adviser to the Committee:** CK Hyder; **Secretary-General:** Farooq Ahmed

2012

President: Maj Gen Amjad Khan Chowdhury; **Vice President:** Nihad Kabir; **Members:** Syed Tareque Md Ali, Akhter Matin Chaudhury, Anjan Chowdhury, M Azizul Huq, AKM Rafiqul Islam, Anis A Khan, Adeeb Hossain Khan, Golam Mainuddin, Feroz Rahim, Rokia Afzal Rahman, Kamran T Rahman; **Secretary-General:** Farooq Ahmed

2013

President: Rokia Afzal Rahman; **Vice President:** Kamran T Rahman; **Members:** Syed Tareque Md Ali, Tabith M Awal, Akhter Matin Chaudhury, Anjan Chowdhury, M Azizul Huq, AKM Rafiqul Islam, Habibullah N Karim, Anis A Khan, Adeeb Hossain Khan, Golam Mainuddin, Feroz Rahim; **Secretary-General:** Farooq Ahmed

2014

President: Rokia Afzal Rahman; **Vice President:** Anis A Khan; **Members:** Syed Tareque Md Ali, M Anis Ud Dowla, Tabith M Awal, Akhter Matin Chaudhury, AKM Rafiqul Islam, Md Saiful Islam, Habibullah N Karim, Adeeb Hossain Khan, Golam Mainuddin; **Secretary-General:** Farooq Ahmed

Appendix - 8

NAMES OF MEMBERS OF SUB-COMMITTEES – 2014

Commercial Legislations: Anis A Khan, M Anis Ud Dowla, Abdul Hafiz Choudhury, FCA, Tapan Chowdhury, AKM Rafiqul Islam, FCA, Adeeb H Khan, FCA, Akhter Matin Chaudhury, FCA, Jamal Uddin Ahmad, FCA, Rafique-ul Huq, Nihad Kabir, Golam Mainuddin

Corporate Governance & CSR: Anis A Khan, Nasir A Choudhury, Adeeb H Khan, FCA, Akhter Matin Chaudhury, FCA, Rafique-ul Huq, Nihad Kabir, Kamran Bakr, Andrew Tilke, Muhammad A. (Rume) Ali

Environment & Climate Change: Anis A Khan, Zahur Ahmed, PhD, FH Ansarey, Golam Mainuddin, Md Hedayetullah, Niaz Rahim, Aryn Saleh.

Establishment: Rokia Afzal Rahman, Anis A Khan, Maj Gen Amjad Khan Chowdhury (Retd), M Anis Ud Dowla, Abdul Hafiz Choudhury, FCA, Latifur Rahman, Mahbub Jamil, Laila Rahman Kabir, Tapan Chowdhury, Syed Manzur Elahi

Export: Kamran T Rahman, Anjan Chowdhury, Feroz Rahim, Md Saiful Islam, Arif Dowla, PhD, Ardashir Kabir, Syed Nasim Manzur, Alamgir MZ Rahman

Finance & Membership: Anis A Khan, AKM Rafiqul Islam, FCA, Syed Tareque Md Ali, Nasir A Choudhury, Md Nurul Islam, Adeeb H Khan, FCA, Kamran T Rahman

FTA & WTO: Nihad Kabir, Habibullah N Karim, Ardashir Kabir, Syed Nasim Manzur, Tahmid Ahmed, Zafar Ahmed, Sharif Bhuiyan, PhD

Industry: Akhter Matin Chaudhury, FCA, Kamran T Rahman, Md Saiful Islam, Syed Nasim Manzur, Syed Nasim Manzur, Md Aziz Khan, Sakif Ariff Tabani, Kamran Bakr, Tabith M Awal, A Matin Chowdhury, Wafi Shafique Menhaz Khan, Andrew Tilke

Infrastructure: M Anis Ud Dowla, Syed Tareque Md Ali, Nasir A Choudhury, Zafar Ahmed, Anjan Chowdhury, Waquer Hossain, Habibullah N Karim, ASM Mainuddin Monem, Feroz Rahim

International Trade & Fair: Akhter Matin Chaudhury, FCA, Arif Dowla, PhD, AQI Chowdhury, OBE, Mamun Rashid, M Azizul Huq, Rubaiyat Jamil, Obaidur Rahman Khan, Munawar Misbah Moin

International Relations: Alamgir MZ Rahman, M Azizul Huq, Kamran Bakr, M Salman Ispahani, Aziz Al Kaiser, AM Hamim Rahmatullah, N Janakiram Raju

Investment: Kamran T Rahman, Golam Mainuddin, Imran Ahmed, Ahsan Khan Chowdhury, Md Aziz Khan, Salahuddin Kasem Khan, Mohammed Habibus Samad, Sakif Ariff Tabani

Tariff & Taxation: Anis A Khan, Abdul Hafiz Choudhury, FCA, Tapan Chowdhury, AKM Rafiqul Islam, FCA, Adeeb H Khan, FCA, Akhter Matin Chaudhury, FCA, Nihad Kabir, Mahtabuddin Ahmed, Vivek Anand, Abdul Khalek, FCA, A Qayyum Khan, PhD, Hasan Mahmood, FCA, Md Samsul Alam Mallick, FCA

Appendix - 9

SUB-COMMITTEES (Year Wise)

NCC, 1904-1950

Communications & Customs
Finance, Currency and the Income Tax
Finance & Income Tax
Finance & Taxes
Import & Export
Labour
Law & Legislation
Licensed Measurers Department
Rail, River, Customs, Import, Export

DNCC, 1950-52

Communications & Customs
Finance & Income Tax
Finances & Taxes
Labour
Law & Legislation
Licensed Measurers Department
Import/Export

DNCCI, 1952-58

Arbitrations
Buildings
Communications & Customs
Development
Finance
Law & Legislation
Licensed Measurers Department
Law & Taxation
Import
Import & Export
Import Trade Control
Industries
Industries & Exports
International Arbitration
Jute Fabric Shippers
Taxation

NCCI, 1959-78

Arbitration
Building
Building Development
Building & Chamber Development
Chamber Development
Customs & Communications
Chamber Finance
Chamber Services Reorganization
Chamber Services Organization
Chamber Building & Development
Company Law
Export
Exports/Shipping
Finance
Finance & Chamber Development
Holidays
Law
Law & Taxation
Import
Imports & Exports
Imports, Exports & Shipping
Industry
Industries
International Relations
Jute Fabric Shippers
Jute & Jute Fabric Shippers
Jute Shippers
Selection
Taxation
Trustees for the Chamber Provident Fund

MCCI, Dhaka 1979-2000

Arbitration
Building Development
Chamber Finance & Membership
Chamber Establishment
Company Law
Company Legislation
Commercial Legislation
Customs & Shipping
Export
Exports & Shipping

Foreign Investment

Holiday

Import

Imports & Tariff

Industry

International Relation

Selection

Taxation

MCCI, Dhaka 2000-Present

Arbitration

Building Development

Chamber Finance & Membership

Chamber Establishment

Commercial Legislations

Corporate Governance & CSR

Customs & Shipping

Environment & Climate Change

Export

Foreign Investment

FTA & WTO

Holiday

Imports & Tariff

Industry

Infrastructure

International Relations

International Trade & Fair

International Trade and Tariff

Investment

Selection

Tariff and Customs

Tariff & Taxation

Taxation

Transport and Shipping

Transport, Shipping and Other Infrastructure Services

Appendix - 10

**LIST OF HONORARY SECRETARIES/ ASSISTANT SECRETARIES/ DEPUTY SECRETARIES/ JOINT
SECRETARIES/ SECRETARIES/ SECRETARY-GENERALS**

AL Godden, Honorary Secretary
1917

RN Story, Honorary Secretary
1924

JH Kirkland, Honorary Secretary
1930

H Williams, Honorary Secretary
1940

Swarup Mukherjee, Acting Honorary Secretary
1947

Gillespi Allen, Honorary Secretary
1948

CK Hyder, Secretary-General
1991-2008

CK Hyder, Adviser to the Committee
2009-11

Farooq Ahmed, Secretary-General
2009 onwards

Emorphopulas, Secretary
1949

Jack Garcia, Secretary
1950-57

K Mohyuddin, Acting Secretary
1957

MZ Ahmed, Secretary
1960-61, 1963-69

CK Hyder, Secretary
1972-90

Farhad Chowdhury, Secretary
1997-2003

Farooq Ahmed, Secretary
2004-2008

Absal Shaquib Quoreshi, Secretary
2009 onwards

Md Murshid Alam, Secretary
2009 onwards

KS Shahabuddin, Joint Secretary
1958-59

MZ Ahmed, Joint Secretary
1958-59

CK Hyder, Joint Secretary
1971

K Mohyuddin, Deputy Secretary
1954-56

KS Shahabuddin, Deputy Secretary
1957

CK Hyder, Deputy Secretary
1968-70

M Ebraheem, Assistant Secretary
1956-58

MH Kashani, Assistant Secretary
1959

AW Chalmers, Assistant Secretary
1958-61

JR Khan, Assistant Secretary
1963-64

CK Hyder, Assistant Secretary
1965-67

Appendix - 11

REPRESENTATIVES (Year Wise) TO VARIOUS COMMITTEES AND ORGANISATION

NCC, 1904-1950

East Bengal Board of Industries
East Bengal Labour Advisory Board
Federation of Chambers of Commerce of the British Empire
Narayanganj Municipality
Pakistan Association
Pakistan Tea Board
Pakistan Tea Licensing Committee

DNCC, 1950-52

Employers Association
Employers Association of East Pakistan
East Bengal Board of Industries
Foreign Trade Development Council
Jute Brokers Association
Narayanganj Municipality
Pakistan Insurance Corporation

DNCCI, 1952-58

Board of Commercial Education, Government of East Bengal
Board of Governors, Viqarunnissa Noon School
Court, Dacca University
Dacca and Narayanganj Municipalities
Dacca Traffic Committee
Dacca University
East Bengal Jute Dealers Association
East Bengal Railway Local Advisory Committee
Employment Advisory Committee for the Regional Employment Exchange
Employers' Association of East Pakistan
Employment Exchanges
Federation of Chambers of Commerce of the British Empire
Food and Agricultural Council
Foreign Trade Development Council
Governor's Refugee Relief Fund
Government College of Commerce, Chittagong
Import Control Advisory Committee
Import Trade Control

Inland Water Transport
 Original Civil Jurisdiction of High Courts
 Pakistan Jute Mills Association
 Pakistan Tea Board
 Provincial Industrial Advisory Council
 Provincial Transport Authority Committee
 Regional Employment Advisory Committee
 Research Advisory Committee
 Textile & consumers Goods
 Trade Union Workers Training Scheme
 Viqarunnissa Girl's School
 West Pakistan Chamber of Commerce & Industry

NCCI, Dacca: 1959-79

Advisory Committee to the Chief Controller of Imports & Exports
 Advisory Committee to the Commissioner of Taxes
 Advisory Committee to relating to Custom & Excise, Dacca
 Advisory Council for Ministry of Commerce
 Advisory Council for Ministry of Commerce (Central)
 Advisory Council for Ministry of Commerce & Foreign Trade
 Asian and Far Eastern Affairs of the International Chamber of Commerce (CAFEA)
 Bangladesh Bank's Co-ordination Committee
 Bangladesh Industrial Facilities Board
 Bangladesh Jute Press Owners Association
 Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority
 Board of Trustees, Dacca Improvement Trust
 Board of Governors of the Bangladesh Management Development Centre
 Bureau of National Reconstruction
 Chalna Anchorage Advisory Committee
 Chalna Port Advisory Committee
 Chittagong Central Excise and Land Customs Advisory Committee
 Central Savings Board, Government of East Pakistan
 Chittagong Port Advisory panel
 Chittagong Customs' Advisory Body
 Commercial Advisory Committee for East Pakistan
 Central Excise and Land Customs Advisory Board, Dacca
 Central Excise and Land Customs Advisory Board, Khulna
 Central Excise and Land Customs Advisory Board, Chittagong
 Central Excise and Land Customs Advisory Committee
 Consultative Committee to the Ministry of Jute

Consultative Committee to the Ministry of Industries
Consultative Committee to the Ministry of Communications
Custom House Advisory Committee, Chittagong
Dacca Improvement trust
Dacca-Narayanganj Electricity Advisory Committee
Dacca Traffic Committee
District Committee for Organizing Cottage and Small Industries
East Bengal Railway Local Advisory Committee
East Pakistan Transport Authority Committee
East Pakistan Labour Advisory Board
EPIWT Authority Advisory Committee
Exports Credits Guarantee Scheme
Export Promotion Council, Ministry of Industries
Formation of Co-Ordination Committee at Dacca on Banking Services
Income-Tax Commissioner's Advisory Committee
Industrial Advisory Council for Bangladesh
Industrial Advisory Council for Ministry of Industries
Industrial Advisory Council for East Pakistan
Import Advisory Committee for East Pakistan
Import Advisory Committee for Dacca Division
Import Advisory Committee for Dacca Region
Import Advisory Committee of the Chief Controller of Imports & Exports
Inter-Ministerial Committee on Labour
Jurisdiction of Chambers of Commerce & Industry
Jute & Textile Divisional Council of the Bangladesh Standards Institutions
Jute & Textile Council of the Bangladesh Standards Institutions
Labour Advisory Board
Management Board for abandoned Properties for Dacca City and Adjoining Area
Narayanganj Municipality
Narayanganj Town Development Committee
National Advisory Council for Small Industries
National Committee for Development of Small & Cottage Industry
National Council of Shippers
National Consultative Committee on Power
Nomination on Pakistan Council of Scientific & Industrial Research Laboratories, Rajshahi
Pakistan Eastern Railway Local Advisory Committee
Pakistan Labour Advisory Board
Pakistan Standards Institution General Council
Pakistan Tea Board
PE Railway Local Advisory Committee

Planning Commission
Inland Water Transport Panel
Provincial Transports Authority
Provincial Tripartite Advisory Committee
Regional Employment Advisory Committee
Inland Transport Committee of the ILO
Central Statistics Bureau
Standing Committee on Export Credit
Labour Committee
East Pakistan Labour Advisory Board
The Advisory Committee on Customs and Excise, Dacca
Sadharan Bima Corporation
The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce & Industry
The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry
The Narayanganj Town Development Committee
The National Committee for Development of Small and Cottage Industries
The Pakistan Institute of Industrial Accountants
The Taxes Commissioner's Advisory Committee
Trade Organizations Ordinance
Training & Employment Advisory Committee of Dacca Polytechnic
Tripartite Consultative Committee of ILO

MCCI, Dhaka: 1979-1999

Advisory Committee to the Commissioners of Taxes
Advisory Committee Relating to Custom & Excise, Dacca
Advisory Committee relating to Custom & Excise, Dhaka
Advisory Committee for the Ministry of Textiles
Advisory Committee for Securities and Exchange Commission
Bangladesh Bank's Co-ordinations Committee
Bangladesh Industrial Facilities Board
Bangladesh Institute of Management
Bangladesh Management Development Centre
Bangladesh Management Development Centre, Ministry of Industries
Bangladesh Shipping Corporation
Bangladesh Shipper's Council
Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority
Board of Trustees, Dhaka Improvement Trust
Chittagong Port Advisory Committee
Chittagong Port Authority Advisory Committee
Consultative Committee to the Ministry of Textiles

Consultative Committee to the Ministry of Jute
Consultative Committee to the Ministry of Jute & Textiles
Consultative Committee for the Jute Division
Consultative Committee for the National Board of Revenue
Consultative Committee to the Ministry of Industries
Consultative Committee to the Ministry of Commerce
Consultative Committee to the Ministry of Communications
Consultative Committee for the Ministry of Industries and Commerce
Consultative Committee on Remittances and Problems of Wage Earners
Customs House Advisory Committee, Chittagong
Customs House Advisory Committee, Dhaka
Council of the Dhaka Stock Exchange
District Committee for Organizing Cottage and Small Industries
Dacca District of Bangladesh Small Cottage Industries Corporation
Drugs Price Fixation Committee
EPB's Management Board
Export Promotion Council
National Council for Industrial Development
Ministry of Industries
Import Advisory Committee of the Chief Controller of Imports & Exports
Institute of Business Administration, Dhaka University
Insurance Advisory Committee
Inter-Ministerial Committee on Labour
ICD (Internal Container Depot) Advisory Committee, Dhaka
ICD (Internal Container Depot) Advisory Committee, Chittagong
ICD (Inland Container Depot) Advisory Committee, Dhaka
ICD (Inland Container Depot) Advisory Committee, Chittagong
Jute & Textile Council of the Bangladesh Standards Institutions
Jute & Textile Council of the Bangladesh Standards & Testing Institution
Management Board for Abandoned Properties for Dacca City and Adjoining Area
Narayanganj Town Development Committee
National Committee for Development of Small & Cottage Industries
National Committee on Exports
National Consultative Committee on Power
National Export Council
Standing Committee on Export Credit
Standing Committee on Income Tax
Steering Committee for Implementation of Uruguay Round Agreement
Task Force on Exports
The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce & Industry

Training & Employment of Advisory Committee of Dacca Polytechnic Institute
Tripartite Consultative Committee of ILO
Transport Consultative Committee for the Ministry of Communications
Transport Consultative Committee

MCCI, Dhaka: 2000-Present

Advisory Committee to the Commissioners of Taxes
Advisory Committee for the Ministry of Textiles
Advisory Committee for Securities and Exchange Commission
Bangladesh Institute of Management
Board of Directors of Dhaka Stock Exchange Ltd.
Chittagong Port Advisory Committee
Committee alteration of Infrastructure draft National Preservation Law Implementation Sangstha
Consultative Committee to the Ministry of Textiles
Consultative Committee to the Ministry of Jute
Consultative Committee for the National Board of Revenue
Consultative Committee to the Ministry of Industries
Consultative Committee to the Ministry of Commerce
Consultative Committee on Remittances and Problems of Wage Earners
Customs House Advisory Committee, Chittagong
Customs House Advisory Committee, Dhaka
Council of the Dhaka Stock Exchange
Council of Bangladesh Standards & Testing Institute
Free Trade Group
Insurance Advisory Committee
Inland Container Depot (ICD) Advisory Committee, Dhaka
Inland Container Depot (ICD) Advisory Committee, Chittagong
Jute & Textile Council of the Bangladesh Standards & Testing Institution
National Committee on Exports
National Consultative Committee on Power
National Export Council
National Council for Industrial Development (NCID)
Palli Daridra Bimochan Foundation
Standing Committee on Export Credit
Standing Committee on Income Tax
Task Force on Exports
Transport Consultative Committee for the Ministry of Communications

Appendix - 12

amendments

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

OF

METROPOLITAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, DHAKA

(Registered under Sec. 26 of the Companies Act 1913 as adapted for Bangladesh)

*Adapted by Special Resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting
held on the 11th April, 1949*

*As amended by Special Resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting
held on the 15th July 1952*

*As amended by Special Resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting
held on the 20th December 1958*

*As amended by Special Resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting
held on the 11th August, 1959*

*As amended by Special Resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting
held on the 15th October, 1963*

*As amended by Special Resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting
held on the 18th March, 1972*

*As amended by Special Resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting
held on the 24th March, 1977*

*As amended by Special Resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting
held on the 20th December, 1979*

*As amended by Special Resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting
held on the 7th February, 1981*

*As amended by Special Resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting
held on the 28th December, 1983*

*As amended by Special Resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting
held on the 10th July, 1986*

*As amended by Special Resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting
held on the 4th September, 1989*

*As amended by Special Resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting
held on the 31st December, 1990*

*As amended by Special Resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting
held on the 1st November, 1994*

*As amended by Special Resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting
held on the 12th September, 2002*

*As amended by Special Resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting
held on the 22nd October, 1012*

Appendix - 13

amendments

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

OF

METROPOLITAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, DHAKA

(Registered under Sec. 26 of the Companies Act 1913 as adapted for Bangladesh)

*Adapted by Special Resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting
held on the 11th April, 1949*

*As amended by Special Resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting
held on the 15th July, 1952*

*As amended by Special Resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting
held on the 20th December, 1979*

*As amended by Special Resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting
held on the 28th December, 1983*

Appendix - 14

Mr AK Fazlul Haq

Governor of East Pakistan (1958)

[Mr AK Fazlul Haq, Governor of East Bengal, delivered his first speech as the Chief Guest in the 51st Annual General Meeting of DNCCI held on 6 April, 1956. This speech has been compiled in the Annual Report of 1956, PP. 19-33. Mr Haq delivered a speech again as the Chief Guest in the 53rd Annual General Meeting of DNCCI held on 4 March, 1958. This second speech was published in the Annual Report of the Chamber of 1958, PP. 16-20 as follows]

Mr President, Members of the Dacca-Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Gentlemen,

I deem it a great privilege to be your Chief Guest at the Annual General Meeting of the Dacca-Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce and Industry. I am grateful to you, Mr President, for the warm welcome you have so kindly extended to me.

Mr President, you have referred to so many points in your address that it will not be possible for me to dilate on all of them. I would only touch the important features of them and assure you that everything you have said will receive the careful consideration of the Provincial and Central Governments.

I entirely agree with your remarks, Mr President, when you say that the primary producing countries all over the world seem to be incurring a substantial deficit on their trade with the rest of the world. This is, of course, due to the reasons already expressed by you in your speech, but as long as we are aware of the trends in this regard we need not to be alarmed about the future.

With regard to the inflationary tendencies in the country which you have just referred to in your speech I can assure you, Mr President, that this has been causing all of us a great deal of anxiety. You may rest assured that both the Provincial and the Central Governments are doing and will do their utmost to meet the threat of inflation. Corrective measures in the field of credit control have already been taken. The Government have, however, in hand various measures which are expected to offer an effective check to inflationary tendencies. Among these may be mentioned intensive drive to combat tax evasion, collection of arrears of revenues, investigation of new sources of revenue by the Tax Inquiry Committee, expansion of agricultural production, particularly food by increasing credit facilities for agriculturalists by implementing other short and long term measures.

I am happy to note that you, as representatives of commerce and industry, are stressing for greater attention to be paid to agriculture. There is no doubt whatsoever that agriculture is our basic industry and it is for this reason that my Government as well as the Central Government are determined to concentrate all our energies on its improvement. The increase of agricultural production is depend, however, upon the use of machinery, large size of the farm, high quality of basic research, a very effective agricultural extension service and last but not the least the price support policy of the Government. In a free economy, the price incentive is the best incentive and

following this policy my Government have recently raised the procurement price of rice in east Pakistan. Other incentives to production of crops are also being provided. Chemical fertilizers are being sold at about one-third of the cost price and plan protection measures adopted by Government have been made available to every farmer, entirely free of cost.

Another important fact is that our agricultural production depends very largely on rainfall and its excess or shortage alter the picture very much. Floods and droughts have played havoc with our efforts to step up agricultural production and ruined our ideal. Many successive devastating floods visited our country and occasional droughts in both the wings have created further serious difficulties. My Government has given the agricultural development the top-most priority in its planning and we propose to maintain pressure for increase in agricultural production until we achieve self-sufficiency in food as well as desired production of raw materials. Our first objective is the immediate building up of food reserve. We, therefore, propose to start with a modest reserve of 2.5 lakh tons of rice in East Pakistan and 2.5 lakh tons of wheat in West Pakistan this year. We are also concentrating effort on providing an extra crop in East Pakistan during the dry winter months through lift irrigation. In this connection I may mention that we have received 1,000 pumping sets this winter for irrigating lands which get dry during winter and for which irrigation is available. Already 600 of these pumps are under use.

I am very happy to note that your Chamber has appreciated the Government's effort to eradicate the menace of smuggling which has caused so much loss to this country. We will welcome the continued co-operation of important public bodies and members of the public in fighting this evil. Unless popular co-operation is continuously and ungrudgingly extended it will not be possible for Government to achieve satisfactory results of a permanent result. Intensive anti-smuggling drive, I can assure you, will continue as long it is necessary.

Mr President, you have complained that you and your associates are not consulted in matters of trade and commerce and industry by the Government. This is not quite correct. I can assure you that the Central and Provincial Governments are always anxious to have the advice of the trade decisions concerning commercial issues. The Central Government have recently decided to set up a Committee called the Import Control Advisory Committee including representatives of Trade and Industry from the different regions to advise Government in framing the import licensing policy in each shipping period, the procedure of licensing and allied matters. The enactment of the particular Act referred to by you, namely, the East Pakistan Development of Industries (Control and Regulation) Act, 1957, was necessary only because the Constitution generally placed industries under the control of the Provincial Government. As this Act was drawn up on the lines of the Development of Industries (Federal Control) Act of 1949 the provisions of which had been in force for the last eight years it was not felt quite necessary to consult the trade afresh on them. Government will always welcome any constructive suggestions and will give their fullest consideration in order to improve upon the existing Act, if that is possible.

The improvement of Inland Water Transport system is a provincial responsibility. Our Central Government is fully aware of the need of improving the Inland Water Transport system in East Pakistan. The Central Government has also made a preliminary approach under the ICA Aid programme for the provision of a loan of 4.03 million Dollars over a period of three years from the United States Development Loan Fund for the development and improvement of Inland ports and

waterways. You can rest assured that my Government will leave no stone unturned for the development of waterways and water transport of the Province.

As regard the Chalna anchorage, the Central Government have moved for a loan of one million Dollars under the ICA programme to purchase the hulk of a ship to use as floating warehouse with offices for custom and other officers to clear the goods for transit in the interior stations.

Mr President I am glad that the improvement in the over-all working of the Chittagong Port has been appreciated by you. Government are doing everything in their power to facilitate further development of trade of two wings of Pakistan. As Chittagong is now the principal port in the Eastern Zone of Pakistan, appreciable development expenditure has been incurred on improving the port and its facilities.

Your suggestion to include in Government Committee experience business executives representing trade organizations such as yourselves is a good one and I will certainly ask my Government to make a note of it and I am sure it will receive the Government's fullest consideration.

I can assure that Government are very earnest to see that industrial peace which is so essential for the development of the country is not disturbed. Government are determined to deal with the illegal and frivolous strikes very firmly. But at the same time the Government are determined that the labourers get just wages and other amenities. The government have, therefore, set up a Minimum Wages Board which will recommend to Government the minimum wages which are to be paid to the various classes of labour. Compulsory recognition of trade unions has already been legislated by the Government which will foster healthy trade unionism. The intention of Government is to ensure that the labourers get a reasonable wage for their toils consistent with the policy that the industrials also get a fair return on their investment. Government hope that both the employers and employees will recognise the importance of industrial peace in the life of growing Nation and will strive to maintain it in the best interest of the country and to their mutual benefit.

It is heartening to note that you are alive to the necessity of securing to the cultivator of a fair return for his jute. I can assure that it is not the aim of the Government's jute policies to raise the jute prices higher and higher. The Government are anxious to see that production is so regulated that jute price is maintained at a level, which is not only fair to the grower but economic to the importer as well. The Government are fully alive to the danger of substitutes and it is not their intention to frame the jute policy in such a way that Pakistani jute is priced out of the international market. The policy of Government is to strike a balance among the conflicting interests of growers, traders, industrialists and the consumers, so that while the growers get a fair price, the substitutes do not oust the jute from its legitimate places in the world market.

As I mentioned to the President of the Chittagong Chamber of Commerce the drought caused a serious reduction last year's tea crop which is regretted by all of us. However, by intensifying efforts, and by increasing the area under cultivation, the industry can ensure its own prosperity.

I will now conclude my address by tanking you Mr President and Members of your Chamber once again for extending your kind invitation to me to address this meeting.

Appendix - 15

Mr Abdul Monem Khan

Governor of East Pakistan (1963)

[Mr Abdul Monem Khan, Governor of East Pakistan, delivered his Speech as the Chief Guest in replying to the presidential address in the 59th Annual General Meeting of NCCI held on 19 December, 1963. This Speech has been compiled in the Annual Report of 1964, PP. 16-22 as follows]

Mr President, Members of the Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce and Industries (NCCI), Gentlemen,

I am grateful to you for your kind invitation to attend the Annual General Meeting of your Chamber and to have the opportunity of exchanging views with your members. It is needless to mention that a well organized Chamber of Commerce and Industry, promoted by considerations of national interest, can play a very useful role in helping Government in formulating policies, economical, fiscal or otherwise, in the best interest of the country. In fact the views and suggestions of Chambers are always given due consideration by Government before policy decisions are made. I am glad to note that your Chamber has been playing its part well and I would like to record my appreciation for the same.

2. In your address you have covered a wide range of subjects, both in the national and international spheres including fiscal and monetary policy of the country. Many of your suggestions in fiscal and monetary and socio-economic spheres fall within the jurisdiction of the Central Government. I have no doubt that the relevant authorities of the Central Government will carefully consider your suggestions in formulating policies for the future. In so far as they may relate to the sphere of the Provincial Government, I can assure you that the Provincial Government will give their best consideration in removing any difficulty which the Trade and Industry may encounter in maintaining steady and buoyant growth.

3. It is heartening to note that the forecast for the current year does not portend any recession and the boom already evidenced is likely to continue. It needs, however, to be pointed out that in spite of the improved outlook in the agricultural commodity market, the downturn, noticed in some of the important commodities produced by Pakistan, has continued, affecting the economy of the country as a whole, and of this Province in particular. The specific points you have made in regard to this aspect will be dealt with in the appropriate place. I would like to mention here that there is a good deal of difference in the approach in this respect between the Trade and the Government and the part played by the Trade in this respect cannot always be looked upon with equanimity.

4. We are now passing through the transitory phase of transformation into a semi-industrial economy. It is satisfactory to note that the industrial production showed an increase of 13.4 percent. In spite of overall decline in the growth rate in the national income during 1962-63 and that response from the private sector was satisfactory.

5. About 80 percent of our people live in villages and, therefore, the development of rural areas and

improvement of standards of living of the masses should be uppermost in the minds of our planners. All our future plans programmes must be made with this object in view. We must industrialise our country and increase the contribution of Industry to the gross national product but the development of agriculture and improvement of communication, educational, medical and other facilities in the villages should go hand in hand with the development of Industry, in order that the entire nation can benefit from the development efforts.

6. I entirely agree with you that the decline in prices of agricultural exports and corresponding increase of those of the manufactured goods pose a serious problem for most of the developing countries like ours, when it is viewed against an ever rising trend in the price of raw materials and manufactured goods, including machinery, which we have to import in order to establish new industries and maintain the old ones. The unit values of Pakistan's total export have generally been on the decline except during years of temporary boom in the price of our exportable commodities and her terms of trade, which during the period of April, 1948 was 100 fell to 60.1 in October-December, 1962. Although our export earnings are increasing but this increase is largely offset by the fall in price of Pakistan's major exports in agricultural raw materials. Diversification of the economy by rapid industrialization of the country and lessening the dependence on exports of primary commodities seem to be the only answer to this. This imposes a heavy responsibility to our industrialists to take all steps to increase the tempo of production and to produce quality goods at a cheaper and competitive price and to explore new markets for the same. Similar steps are necessary to be taken in regard to agricultural commodities, especially jute. In order to meet the challenge of substitutes we must produce our golden fibre at still cheaper price and take steps to find out varied uses of jute fibre.

7. Mr President I entirely agree with you that the private sector should be allowed to play its rightful role in the speedy development of the country. That is in fact one of the objectives of the Second Five-Year Plan and it has been reiterated on numerous occasions. This will be amply demonstrated if we examine the revised investment schedule which has raised the private sector investment figure from Rs 69.96 crores to Rs 95.44 crores of East Pakistan alone. It is proposed to give greater importance to private sector investment during the Third plan. The public sector investment has generally been confined to heavy capital-intensive and less remunerative industries in which private enterprise has not been forthcoming either generally or in particular regions.

8. In this context I like to touch very briefly on the subject of taxation and probable anti-cartel measures which you have mentioned in your address. Government is anxious to give all facilities to the private sector for capital formation and for setting up industries very rapidly. At the same time the benefits of the industrialization should be shared by other agencies contributing to the growth of national product either in the form of cheaper or finished products, or in the form of equitable wages for the labourers. No Government having the good of the people at heart can play a silent role while concentration of wealth in the hands of a few is giving rise to general discontent. Our labour legislation and taxation measures have been designed to maintain the social equilibrium and the same time to ensure steady industrial progress in order that the entire nation can participate in the prosperity generated by the industrial development of the country and to enjoy greater social and economic benefits. I can give you assurance that while these principles will be kept in view, nothing will be done to the detriment of legitimate interests of the private sector. I am aware that no Cartel

as such has been formed but what we are anxious to avoid is the effect which concentration of trade and industry in a few hands is likely to produce to the detriment of the interest of the nation as a whole.

9. Whilst on the subject of labour I think I hardly need emphasise that the relationship between employer and employees is a relationship that involves a balance of both rights and obligations of either side. This naturally requires a certain amount of human understanding, co-operation and appreciation of each others view point. I would, however, request you to remember that under the conciliation procedures Government has no power to compel any party, whether be labour or the management, to concede anything. It is only after conciliation fails that the parties become entitled to seek redress of their grievances through the process of adjudication in the industrial Court. It is well to remember that happy and contended labour is also efficient labour. As the persian saying runs:

*Mazdoor Khus Dil
Kunad-Kar Besh*

I would like to appeal to labour to maintain discipline and not to do anything which impairs the capacity of industries to pay them adequate wages, by resorting to strike or lockout on insufficient grounds or use force in forcing their will on others, as such action has the effect of reducing the output and earning of the industry. Every man-hour lost means loss of output and earnings of the Industry and is a national loss as it reduces the national product. We assure them that their legitimate grievances will always receive the most sympathetic consideration of Government.

10. In regard to import under AID licensing mentioned by you, I may point out that due to rather tight foreign exchange position, it has not been possible to import all the requirements of raw materials under cash licensing. However, your suggestion regarding placement of spare parts and machineries on cash licensing is being sent to the Ministry of Commerce for their consideration. The real remedy to this situation is to quickly augment the foreign exchange earnings. You have referred to increase the foreign exchange earnings during 1962, but most of this is due to increase in the earnings of one commodity, namely, cotton. There has not been significant increase in the contribution of other commodities either agricultural or industrial. Government have adopted several measures to boost up exports and are endeavoring to give more and more encouragement to export industries. The export bonus Scheme which you have mentioned is but one of the many measures taken towards this end and it is up to the industries to take advantage of these measures to augment exports and exports earnings instead of merely continuing their sale to the sheltered home market.

11. In jute export, quota system and price advantage to the small shippers have obviously been retorted to for broadbasing this trade and to boost up small Pakistani shippers. Jute marketing Corporation is at a disadvantage as compared to other shippers because it has to carry out the directives of Government about lifting of jute from uneconomic centres, particularly border areas and at a fixed price – a job which other buyers were not too enthusiastic to do in the past. Besides, the Corporation is also to hold the buffer stock. For all these considerations, the price advantage which the Jute Market Corporation is enjoying with other small shippers may not be grudged.

12. Government are also keen to see the Jute Industry developed as much and as fast as possible. It is the single largest industry in this Province. The target for jute loomage during the Second Plan period has been raised to 18,000 and sanction for installation of another 2,000 looms has already been given. The expansion programme of the existing mills from 250 to 500 loomage has also been taken in hand. I am happy to find that this industry is steadily making progress.

13. We have taken note of your suggestions regarding the economic size of Textile Mills. We are trying to get a larger allocation of spindles in East Pakistan and this request of yours will be taken into consideration along with other factors.

14. Your request to extend the Export Bonus Scheme beyond the period of the Second Plan will be placed before the Central Government.

15. You have mentioned about the condition of certain roads in the Province. I have already touched on the need for improvement of communications all around – road, rail and water. You are aware of the difficulty and cost of making roads and maintaining them in this Province. I would like to consider that at the time of independence we in East Pakistan inherited only 240 miles of paved roads. By 1962-63 the total mileage of paved roads in the Province have increased to 1,400 miles of which more than 500 miles have been constructed during the first three years of the Second Five-Year Plan. I can, however, assure you that the roads you have mentioned are within our plan of improvement of trunk and local roads and the work would be taken up in due course as additional funds are available.

16. In regard to Tea, we are in an unfortunate position. The consumption is increasing at a rate faster than the production can increase under normal circumstances. The production as you know is subject to variation due to climatic factors and during two years recently production went down by 30 and 12 percent respectively. Government have launched a scheme of expansion of areas in the existing gardens and of setting up new gardens and have provided all possible facilities in regard to credit, tax holidays and moratorium in regard to payment of Government revenues. The industry which is making not inconsiderable profit should come forward to undertake schemes of irrigation so that the fall in production from drought can be prevented and per acre production can be increased substantially. We can then keep pace with the increased demand and can also spare a sizeable quantity for the export market.

17. As regards hides/skins, our Industry should now aim at processing the bulk of hides and skins produced locally and convert them into finished goods as far as possible so that our export can take the shape of finished leather or leather goods. Our leather goods have already established a market in some foreign countries and there is scope for further increase.

18. It is gratifying to note that the plans the major IWT operators for modernization, rehabilitation and expansion of their fleets are now well under way. It is hoped that much greater attention will be paid by them in future to augment the passenger capacity with improved standard of comfort, safety and speed, and to acquire additional river-cum-sea transport capacity for serving the Chittagong Port.

19. It seems to me that the plans for changeover from coal-fired vessels to diesel propelled ones were not dictated by the merits of the cheaper fuel costs alone but also for other important reasons such

as (i) the relative advantages of volume weight/power ratio of diesel engines, thereby making more space available on the vessels for carriage of cargo and passengers, (ii) maximum operational flexibility inherent in a diesel installation and (iii) less fuel consumption for keeping the vessels in readiness. In the ultimate analysis, there should be savings in the direct operational costs of diesel vessels even with the increased fuel costs.

20. After making detailed study of the impact of increased duty on fuel oils on the operating costs, the IWTA have already authorised an increase of 7 per cent. in the "special rates" of major operators.

21. For a short period power supply from the Kaptai Hydro station was interrupted due to faults due to fault developing in the generators on account of certain manufacturing defects. One of the machines has already been repaired and is operating satisfactorily to meet the full demand and the other will be put back into service within a short period. But I do not think I can agree with you in doubting the total wisdom of setting up the Kaptai project. It is well to remember that the Kaptai project is a multi-purpose project. It has contributed towards saving the Karnafhuli and Halda basin from the extensive ravages of floods. It has proved useful for navigation purposes. Since its commission, the Hydro generating station has contributed in less than two years 365 million kilowatt-hours of energy worth about Rs 30 million in the cost of fuel alone which would have to be imported otherwise. To have thermal station in each district, running on imported fuel would be a costly affair. However, with the discovery of natural gas proposals are already in hand for planning additional thermal power stations in the province. The general question of reducing power rates in East Pakistan is already being actively considered by Government.

22. I thank you once again Mr Chairman and Members of your Chamber for having given me this opportunity of coming into contact with you and acquainting myself with the problem faced by trade and industry. I can assure you that we shall spare no pains to meet your legitimate demands.

Appendix - 16 (1)

CERTIFICATE OF NAME CHANGE

Issue No. 1220

**IN THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES
UNDER ACT OF VII OF 1913**

**IN THE MATTER OF NARAYANGANJ CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY**

122-124, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka

I do hereby certify that pursuant to the provisions of Section II, sub-section (5), Act VII, 1913 (the Companies Act, 1913), and under order of the Government of Bangladesh conveyed by their No. 2 (23)/79, T.O. Department, Ministry of Commerce dated the 4th December/79 to the address of Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 122-124, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dacca, the name of Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce and Industry has this day been changed to Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka and that the said Company has been duly incorporated as a Company under the provisions of the said Act.

Dated this 21st day of December, One thousand Nine hundred and Seventy nine.

Sd/-

(Mohammad Ali)

Registrar,

Joint Stock Companies,

Bangladesh

SEAL

J. S. C. 39

P C P P D -II Shift-2362/69-70 (c)-(c-432)-24-3-70-1. 500.

Appendix - 16(2)



CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

C/76

No. 1305-E.P. of 1959-1960
34

I hereby certify that Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce and Industry is this day incorporated under the Companies Act VII of 1913.

Given under my hand at Chittagong this eight day of October, One thousand Nine hundred and Fifty nine.

SEAL
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies,
East Pakistan

Sd/- **B. Huq.**
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies,
EAST PAKISTAN

Appendix - 16(3)

LICENCE



GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
Ministry of Commerce

Licence

No. 3

Issued under Section 26th of the Companies Act, 1913.

WHEREAS it has been proved to the satisfaction of the Central Government that an association calling itself Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce and Industry has been formed for promoting trade, commerce or industry and representing and protecting the interests of persons engaged in trade, commerce or industry and doing acts and things connected there with or incidental thereto and that it applies its profits or other income in promoting its object and prohibits the payment of any divided to its members:

NOW, THEREFORE, in pursuance of Section 26th of the Companies Act, 1913 (VII OF 1913), the Central Government by this licence is pleased to direct that the said association be registered as a company with limited liability without the addition of the word 'Limited' to its name,

THIS LICENCE is granted subject to:-

- (a) The fulfillment by the said association of the requirement of the paragraphs I to 14 of the Central Government Resolution No. 333/101/57-EP, III, dated the 18 November, 1958 as amended, from time to time, except where any exemption is granted by the Ministry of Commerce; and
- (b) The conditions and regulations contained in the Memorandum and the Article of Association of the said association, a copy of which is hereto annexed, to the extent such conditions and regulation are not inconsistent with the said Resolution.

GIVEN under the hand Abbas Khaleeli, Secretary to the Government of Pakistan in the Ministry of Commerce, this 16th day of March, 1959.

Mc, 3-Spl
GPPK-H51 Commerce-232-59-500

Sd/-Abbas Khaleeli
Secretary to the Government of Pakistan

Appendix - 17			
Office-bearers for 2014			
01.	Rokia Afzal Rahman	President	Chair, Arlinks Limited
02.	Anis A Khan	Vice-President	Managing Director & CEO, Mutual Trust Bank Ltd
03.	Syed Tareque Md Ali	Member	Managing Director, Kushtia Cold Storage Ltd
04.	M Anis Ud Dowla	"	Chairman, Advanced Chemical Industries Ltd
05.	Tabith M Awal	"	Managing Director, Kay & Que (Bangladesh) Ltd
06.	Akhter Matin Chaudhury, FCA	"	Chairman & Managing Director, Nuvista Pharma Ltd
07.	AKM Rafiqul Islam, FCA	"	Chairman, Rangamati Water Front
08.	Md Saiful Islam	"	Managing Director, Picard Bangladesh Ltd
09.	Habibullah N Karim	"	Managing Director, Technohaven Company Ltd
10.	Adeeb H Khan, FCA	"	Senior Partner, Rahman Rahman Huq
11.	Golam Mainuddin	"	Chairman, British American Tobacco Bangladesh Company Limited
12.	Kamran T Rahman	"	Managing Director, Pubali Jute Mills Limited
13.	Mamun Rashid	"	Vice Chairman, BD Venture Limited

SECRETARY-GENERAL

Farooq Ahmed

Source: <http://www.mccibd.org/pages/office-bearers.php>

Appendix - 18**MCCI, Dhaka: Member List (September 30, 2014)****ORDINARY MEMBERS****A**

aamra Networks Limited
aamra Technologies Limited
AB Bank Limited
Abdul Monem Limited
Abdul Monem Sugar Refinery Limited
ACI Foods Limited
ACI Formulations Limited
ACI Godrej Agrovet Private Limited
ACI Logistics Limited
ACI Motors Limited
ACI Pure Flour Limited
ACI Salt Limited
Acnabin
Advanced Chemical Industries Ltd
AEG Engineering Limited
AEI-English Electric of Bangladesh Limited
Aftab Automobiles Limited
Aftab Bahumukhi Farms Ltd
Aftab Feed Products Ltd
Agrani Bank Ltd
Agricultural Marketing Co Ltd
A. K. Khan & Company Limited
Albert David (Bangladesh) Limited
Alltex Industries Ltd
Alpha Tobacco Mfg Co Ltd
Amann Bangladesh Limited
Ambee Pharmaceuticals Limited
American Life Insurance Company
A M Foods Limited
Apex Footwear Limited
Apex Foods Limited
Apex Lingerie Limited
Apexpharma Limited
Apex Spinning & Knitting Mills Ltd
Apex Textile Printing Mills Ltd
Apex Tannery Limited
Apex Weaving & Finishing Mills Ltd
Apex Yarn Dyeing Ltd

Archroma (Bangladesh) Ltd
Arlinks Limited
Asian Surveyors Limited
Astras Garments Limited
Avery Bangladesh Limited

B

Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation
Bangladesh Development Bank Ltd
Bangladesh Export Import Co Ltd
Bangladesh Insulator & Sanitaryware Factory Limited
Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation
Bangladesh Jute Mills Limited
Bangladesh Lamps Limited
Bangladesh Paper Mills Limited
Bank Asia Limited
BASF Bangladesh Limited
Basundhara Garments Limited
Bata Shoe Co (Bangladesh) Ltd
Bayer Crop Science Limited
BD Venture Ltd
Bengal Fisheries Limited
Bengal Glass Works Limited, The
Bengal Shipping Line Ltd
Bengal Steel Works Limited
Berger Paints Bangladesh Limited
Beverage Distribution Ltd
Beximco Apparels Limited
Beximco Pharmaceuticals Limited
Birds Bangladesh Agencies Limited
BRAC Bank Limited
BRAC Impact Venture Ltd
BRAC Net Ltd
British American Tobacco Bangladesh Company Ltd
Bureau Veritas (BIVAC) Bangladesh Ltd

C

Cemex Cement (Bangladesh) Ltd
Central Depository Bangladesh Ltd
Chandpur Jute Mills Limited
Citibank NA
City Brokerage Ltd
Coats Bangladesh Limited
Coca-Cola Far East Limited
Concord Condominium Limited

Concord Engineers & Construction Limited
Concorde Garments Limited
Consolidated Chemicals Limited
Consumer Products Limited
Cosmos Shipping Lines (Pvt) Ltd
Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC

D

Dacca Dyeing & Mfg Co Ltd, The
Delta Brac Housing Finance Corporation Ltd
Delta Ties Limited
Desh Garments Limited
Dhaka Regency Hotel & Resort Ltd
DHS Motors Ltd
Dipon Infrastructure Services Ltd
Dr Kamal Hossain & Associates
Duncan Brothers (Bangladesh) Ltd
Dutch-Bangla Bank Limited

E

East Asia Tanneries Limited
East Coast Shipping Lines Ltd
Eastern Bank Limited
Eastern Housing Limited
Eastern Progressive Shoe Industries Limited
edotco Bangladesh Co Ltd
Elite International Limited
Elite Iron & Steel Industries Ltd
Emerging Credit Rating Ltd
Energypac Power Generation Ltd
Envoy Garments Limited
Eskayef Bangladesh Limited
Essential Drugs Company Limited

F

Federal Insurance Company Ltd

G

General Electric Company of Bangladesh Limited, The
GK Garments Limited
GlaxoSmithKline Bangladesh Ltd
Gonoshasthaya Pharmaceuticals Ltd
GrameenPhone Limited
Green Delta Securities Ltd
Green Delta Insurance Company Limited

H

H & H Company
Hives Engineering Limited
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, The
Holcim Cement (Bangladesh) Limited
Hotel Sarina Ltd
HRC Shipping Ltd
HRC Syndicate Ltd
Huq and Company

I

IBCS-PRIMAX Software (Bangladesh) Ltd
ICE Retail Initiative Ltd
ICE Technologies Limited
Imtiyaz Husain Securities Limited
Industrial and Infrastructure Development Finance Co Ltd
IDLC Finance Limited
Impress Telefilm Ltd
Incepta Pharmaceuticals Ltd
Industrial Promotion and Development Company of Bangladesh Limited
Information Solutions Limited
Integrated Foods & Beverages Private Ltd
International Finance Investment and Commerce Bank Limited
International Leasing & Financial Services Limited
Investment Corporation of Bangladesh

J

Jamuna Oil Company Limited
Jamuna Resort Ltd
Janata Bank Limited
Janata Jute Mills Limited
Jaroms Consultants Limited
JF (Bangladesh) Limited
Joongbo Multimode Chemicals Limited

K

Karim Jute Mills Limited
Karnaphuli Fertilizer Company Ltd
Karnaphuli Limited
Kay & Que (Bangladesh) Ltd
Kedarpur Tea Company Ltd
Khulna Power Co Ltd
Khulna Power Company Unit II Limited
Knit Asia Limited
Kumudini Welfare Trust of Bengal (Bangladesh) Limited

L

Lafarge Surma Cement Ltd
Lal Teer Livestock Limited
Latif Bawany Jute Mills Limited
Libra Infusions Limited
Linde Bangladesh Limited
Lungla (Sylhet) Tea Company Limited, The

M

Maersk Bangladesh Limited
Magnum Steel Industries Limited
Malek Spinning Mills Limited
Meenhar Sea Foods Limited
Meghna Jute Mills Limited
Meghna Petroleum Limited
Milnars Pumps Limited
Mirpur Ceramic Works Limited
MJ Abedin & Co
MM Ispahani Limited
Moazzem Knit & Dyeing Industries Limited
Mohsen Jute Mills Limited
Monno Ceramic Industries Limited
Monno Fabrics Limited
Mutual Food Products Limited
Mutual Trust Bank Limited

N

National Brokers Limited
National Housing Finance and Investments Ltd
National Tea Company Limited
Navana Limited
Navana Pharmaceuticals Ltd
Nestle Bangladesh Limited
New Dacca Industries Limited
New Zealand Dairy Products Bangladesh Ltd
Nirman International Limited
Nitol Insurance Company Ltd
Novartis (Bangladesh) Limited
Nuvista Pharma Limited

O

Octagon Fibres & Chemicals Ltd
Olympic Industries Limited
Omnichem Limited

Omnitrans International Limited

Opex Garments Limited

Orr, Dignam & Co

P

Pacific Bangladesh Telecom Ltd

Pacific Industries Limited

Pacific Motors Limited

Pacific Traders Limited

Padma Oil Company Limited

Paragon Ceramic Industries Ltd

Paragon Poultry Limited

Partex Jute Mills Ltd

Picard Bangladesh Limited

Pioneer Insurance Co Ltd

Pragati Insurance Limited

Pragati Life Insurance Limited

Premiaflex Plastics Limited

Prime Bank Limited

Prime Composite Mills Limited

Prime Steel Re-Rolling Mills Ltd

Powerpac-Mutiara Keraniganj Power Plant Limited

Pubali Bank Limited

Pubali Jute Mills Limited

Q

QC Shipping Limited

Quantum Consumer Solutions Limited

Quantum Pharmaceuticals Limited

R

Radiant Pharmaceuticals Ltd

Rahimafrooz Accumulators Ltd

Rahimafrooz Batteries Limited

Rahimafrooz Distribution Ltd

Rahimafrooz Renewable Energy Ltd

Rahimafrooz Globatt Ltd

Rahman Rahman Huq

Raj Lanka Power Co Ltd

Rangamati Waterfront

Rangpur Foundry Limited

Rangs Limited

Rangs Properties Limited

Reckitt Benckiser (Bangladesh) Limited

Reliance Insurance Limited

Rema Tea Company Limited

Remfry & Son Limited
Renata Agro Industries Limited
Renata Limited
Robi Axiata Limited
Rupali Bank Limited
Ruposhi Bangla Hotel

S

Sadat Jute Industries Limited
Sadharan Bima Corporation
Sajida Foundation
Samah Razor Blades Industries Limited
Sanofi Bangladesh Ltd
Sathgao Tea Estate
Sena Kalyan Sangstha
SF Ahmed & Co
Shaw Wallace Bangladesh Ltd
Sheltech (Pvt) Limited
Shinepukur Ceramics Limited
Shohagpur Textile Mills Limited
Sidko Limited
Siemens Bangladesh Limited
Singer Bangladesh Limited
Sinha Dyeing & Finishing Limited
Social Marketing Company
Soiltech International Limited
Sonali Bank Limited
Southeast Bank Limited
Square Food & Beverage Ltd
Square Fashions Limited
Square Hospitals Limited
Square Informatix Limited
Square Pharmaceuticals Limited
Square Textiles Limited
Square Toiletries Limited
Square Yarns Limited
Stainless Industrial Corporation Ltd
Standard Asiatic Oil Co Ltd
Standard Bank Limited
Standard Chartered Bank
Star Particle Board Mills Limited
Summit Bibiyana – I Power Co Ltd
Summit Bibiyana – II Power Co Ltd
Summit Communications Ltd
Summit Industrial & Mercantile Corporation (Pvt) Ltd

Summit Meghnaghat Power Co Ltd
Summit Narayanganj Power Ltd
Summit Power Ltd
Summit Oil & Shipping Co Limited
Supreme Pharmaceuticals Ltd
SW Multimedia Ltd
SW Shipping Limited
Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed & Associates
Syngenta Bangladesh Limited

T

Tea Holdings Limited
Technohaven Company Ltd
Telephone Shilpa Sangstha Ltd
Tetley ACI (Bangladesh) Ltd
Tradexcel Graphics Limited
Transcom Beverages Limited
Transcom Consumer Products Ltd
Transcom Electronics Limited
Transcom Limited
Transcom Technologies Limited
Transmarine Logistics Limited
Tricorp Limited
Trinco Limited

U

Unilever Bangladesh Ltd
United Insurance Company Limited
United Jute Mills Limited
United Leasing Company Limited
Uttara Bank Limited

W

Wilhelm G. Classen (Bangladesh) Ltd
W Rahman Jute Mills Limited
Wyeth-Ayerst International Inc

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

A

ACI HealthCare Limited
Ayna Broadcasting Corporation Ltd
Azim & Son (Pvt.) Ltd

B

Beximco Fashions Limited

I

IT Connect Ltd

K

Kushtia Cold Storage Limited

M

Maasranga Broadcasting Network Ltd
Maasranga Communications Ltd

S

Square Air Limited
Square Formulations Ltd
Square Herbal & Nutraceuticals Ltd

T

Transcraft Limited
Transcom Cables Limited
Transcom Foods Limited
Transcom Mobile Ltd

V

Vision Technologies Limited

Appendix - 19

Selected MESSAGES for the Chamber's Diamond Jubilee Celebration (1904-1979)

Published in the Annual Report of 1978-1979

Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce & Industry (NCCI)

19 (a)

Kamruddin Ahmad

On the 16th of December 1971, Pakistan armed forces surrendered and 'War of Liberation' came to an end. Bangladesh emerged as a sovereign People's Republic, but I was still in the custody of the Pakistan Army. The Jail Gate was opened on the 17th morning by the 'Muktibahini' and I came out as free citizen of a newly independent state.

On the 18 December 1971, I joined my Firm Orr, Dignam & Co, and within a week I received a cable from Lord Incharge Group from London to accept its offer to become the President of Pakistan Rivers Steamers Limited (later came to be known as BDRS). By the end of the year, I had to accept the Chairmanship of Ralli (Bangladesh) Limited, Carew & Co. and the Directorship of Gladstone Wyllie, Shaw Wallace, Industrial Promotion Services and Dalhousie Co. Ltd., I could appreciate the reason behind those offers. They all wanted to take advantage of my detention by the Pakistan Army.

Shortly afterwards, the General Manager of PRS Mr A Qayyum indicated to me that he would like to propose my name as the President of the Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce and Industry. I hesitated firstly because I was inherently a professional man and had never anything to do with Commerce & Industry except their legal parts, secondly I had never attended any Chamber meeting though I joined their annual Dinners First contact of most of their members began since 1969-70 when I specialized in Management-Labour Relations Law.

In the Tripartite Standing Committee meeting and Tripartite Labour Conference in 1970, I was chosen as the spokesman of the East Pakistan Employer's Association in Karachi. Thus, I became the President of the Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce and Industry and had to continue for three consecutive years, the longest period one is allowed under the Chamber constitution to hold that post.

But, I did not invite either the Minister of Commerce or Industry to address the Chamber Members during my time as I did not agree with their views. The Dacca Chamber of Commerce under its almost permanent President Mr Motiur Rahman, another Minister took full advantage of my policy but I must say I was fully supported by the Chamber members and faced the consequent unhappy relationship with the Government in power. I knew it was risky but I stuck to my principle and I paid the penalty which I never divulged to any one and kept up my appearance. During those three years I never took advantage from the Chamber or the Government and I acted more as its solicitor than as President.

I am, however, still extremely grateful to those members of the Chamber apart from the Secretary of the Chamber who extended financial assistance to Udayan School, which used the fund to construct a big room for students of Nursery class.

Sd Kamruddin Ahmad

President (1972, 73, 74)

19 (b)**CEC Guthrie**

It was a great privilege to be the President of the Chamber on two occasions i. e. for 1947-48 and again in 1950-51.

After the end of world War-II, the Chamber was very nearly non-existent but with the energetic endeavours the number of member firms was quickly increased. During my first term of office, Swrup Mukherjee was Acting Hony. Secretary. Then the late Gillespi Allen took over until Mr Emorphopulas was installed as Secretary of the Chamber. He was followed by Mr Jack Garcia who was Secretary until I retired in July 1956 (31.7.56 to be correct.)

The Chamber of Commerce had no office of its own and usually met in Narayanganj Club Committee Room or in the Institute and thereafter in Dacca at the Secretary's residence.

My first AGM was held in the institute and was a short meeting owing to the sudden death of a prominent national leader.

During my second term of office the Chamber sent a delegation to Karachi which I had the pleasure of leading to the Special Meeting held in the Sind Club. The AGM that year was addressed by the Governor of East Pakistan.

The Chamber had many dealings with the Jute Board during the different period just after partition in 1947 and their endeavours greatly benefited the export of Jute to Calcutta under export bonus.

Sd **CEC Guthrie**,
President (1948, 1951)

19 (c)

M Mehdy Ispahani

I have had been associated with Dacca Narayanganj Chamber now Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce and Industry for over thirty years. I have very pleasant memories of how closely the Mercantile community worked amongst themselves and with other sectors of our society. Unlike today, the Mercantile community was held in high esteem by the people and Government. People rejoiced when an industry whether jute Mill or Cotton Mill was established.

When our advice was sought by Government, like today we placed national interest above our community interest. Whether politicians or Civil servants, there was regular exchange of views with us and this team work produced results for the good of the country.

Neither the politician or Civil servants nor the businessmen professed to know everything. Loyalty and nationalism were not the monopoly of any one section and no one was challenged on these two counts. Merchants and Industrialists were inducted by Government were entrusted with nation building tasks. It is to the credit of our community that such tasks whether in the field of Commerce or Banking or Industry were performed with great devotion and zeal.

If we, as a nation, are to keep up the old spirit de corps, it would do well for all of us to emulate the noble example set by the pioneers.

On this great occasion of the Diamond Jubilee celebration, may I wish the Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce and Industry a long life and continued service to the people and the country.

Sd M Mehdy Ispahani,
President (1955, 1956, 1960)

19 (d)**A QAYYUM**

I am very happy to learn that to mark the 75th year of its existence the Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce and Industry is going to celebrate its Diamond Jubilee very shortly. I had the honour and privilege of having been associated with this premier Chamber of the country for many years both as a Member of the Executive Committee and, for one term in 1971, as its President. My experience during my term of office as the President of the Chamber was indeed unique, for although a purely non-political organisation and devoted entirely to furthering the cause of commerce and industry, it was, perhaps, for the first time in its entire history that in 1971 the Chamber took an unprecedented decision of making a substantial donation for a political cause, thereby fully identifying itself with the political aspirations of the people of this country. For several months immediately prior to the Pak Army crackdown, this Chamber had also the rare privilege of having been constantly consulted by the principal political party of that time to provide advice and guidance on all matters concerning trade, commerce and industry.

The Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce and Industry has undoubtedly been playing a very active role in serving the nation and I felicitate the Chamber on this happy occasion of its Diamond Jubilee. I also hope that the collective endeavours of all members of this Chamber will be so directed as will ensure a balanced and healthy growth of trade, commerce and industry. In this country and thereby enrich our nation.

Sd/- **A Qayyum**
President (1971)

Appendix - 20

Names and Addresses of the Chamber Subscribers in 1949/ Founding Members in the New Phase (1949)		
SL	Names	Address and Descriptions of Subscribers
1	DP Fafallios	Merchant- Rally Brothers Ltd, EP Branch, Narayanganj
2	LK Nixon	Managing Director- R Sims & Co Ltd, Narayanganj
3	G Allan	Director- Sonakhunda Baling Co Ltd, Narayanganj
4	Ismail GH, Ariff	Agent- Bengal Assam Steamship Co Ltd, Narayanganj
5	SW Alexander	Manager- Ludlow Pakistan Co Ltd, Narayanganj
6	KP Matthews	Join Agent- IGN & RSN Co Ltd, Narayanganj
7	JA Coldwell	Manager- M Sarkies & Son, Narayanganj

Witness to the above:

Singature: GP Henwood

Appendix - 21**Objectives of the Chamber**

- 1) To promote and protect the trade, commerce and industry and manufactures of Bangladesh and in particular, the trade, commerce, industry and manufactures of Dhaka and Narayanganj.
- 2) To watch over and protect the general commercial and industrial interests of Bangladesh or any part there of and the interests of persons engaged in trade, commerce, industry or manufactures in Bangladesh and in particular in Dhaka and Narayanganj.
- 3) To consider all questions connected with trade, commerce, industry and manufactures.
- 4) To collect and circulate statistics and other information relating to trade, commerce, industry and manufactures.
- 5) To promote or oppose legislative and other measures affecting, trade, commerce, industry and manufactures.
- 6) To adjust controversies between members of the Association.
- 7) To arbitrate in the settlement of disputes arising of commercial transactions between parties willing or agreeing to abide by the judgment and decision of the Association.
- 8) To established just and equitable principles in trade.
- 9) To form a code or codes of practice to simplify and facilitate transaction of business, industry.
- 10) To maintain uniformity in rules, regulations and users of trade.
- 11) To communicate with Chambers of Commerce and other mercantile and public bodies throughout the world, and concert and promote measures for the protection of trade, commerce, industry and manufactures and persons engaged therein.
- 12) To acquire by purchase, taking on lease, or otherwise lands and buildings and all other property, moveable and immoveable which the Association, for purposes thereof, may, from time to time, think proper to acquire.
- 13) To sell, improve, manage, develop exchange, lease or let under lease, sublet, mortgage, dispose of, turn to account or otherwise deal with, all or any part of the property of the Association.
- 14) To construct upon any premises acquired for the purpose of the Association, any building or buildings for the purposes of the Association and to alter, add or remove any building upon such premises.

- 15) To borrow or raise any money required for the purposes of the Association upon such terms and in such manner and on such securities, as may be determined, and in particular by the issue of debentures charged upon all or any of the property of the Association.
- 15a) To, devote apply or subscribe any money securities stocks or share s bequeathed or made over to the Association to such charitable or benevolent object, or for any public general or useful object or purpose as the donor may direct or, where no such directions are given, as the Association may in General Meeting from time to time determine.
- 15b) To establish and support, or aid in the establishment and support of Association, Institutions, Funds, Trusts and conveniences calculated to benefit employees or ex-employees of the Association or the dependents or connections of such persons and to grant pensions and allowances.
- 16) To subscribe to, become a member of, and co-operate with any other Association whether incorporated or not, whose objects are altogether or in part similar to those of this Association such information as may be likely to forward the objects of this Association.
- 17) To do all such other things as may be conducive to the extension of trade, commerce, industry or manufactures, or incidental to the attainment of the above objects or any of them.

Appendix - 22**PRESS RELEASES (SELECTIVE)**

The Chamber issued a number of public statements or press releases, some jointly with other trade bodies, to express its views, concerns and reactions on some of the nationally or internationally important issues during last 35 years. They have started publishing public statement from 1979 at the time of their Diamond Jubilee Celebration. Some selected statements or press releases are reproduced below:

Appendix - 22 (1)

**MCCI, DHAKA WELCOMES
THE GANGES WATER SHARING TREATY**

(Reproduced from the Annual Report, For the Year ended 31 July 1997, MCCI, Dhaka, P. 43)

We welcome the recently concluded Bangladesh-India Water Sharing Treaty. It not only resolves an issue of long outstanding differences between the two countries, but also marks a break-through in the over-all relationship of the two countries which will obviously lead to further expansion of co-operation in different areas, particularly, in trade and industry. In this perspective, we compliment the Prime Ministers of the two countries and all others who have played key roles in the conclusion of the treaty. Their achievement shows that given collective commitment, it is possible to rise above the confines of narrow interests and contribute to the common welfare.

It is now our expectation that with the break-through in the water sharing issue, early attention will be given to exploration of the areas of long-term economic co-operation between the two countries in the same way regional co-operation is being importance throughout the world. Our Chamber, along with representative trade bodies of India, have been stressing for expeditious resolution of all tariff and non-tariff barriers, which now effect economic co-operation between the two countries. We are convinced that an early break-through in the economic relationship between the two countries, as well as amongst the countries in the sub-region, will contribute immensely to the welfare of the common people. It is well established today that regional co-operation will be major, if not central, feature of global economic scenario in the post-WTO agreement.

Dated, Dhaka
The 18 December, 1996

Sd/-
(Samson H Chowdhury)
President, MCCI, Dhaka

Appendix - 22 (2)

WEEKLY HOLIDAY

(Reproduced from the Annual Report, For the Year ended 31 July 1997, MCCI, Dhaka, P. 46)

In September, 1982, the weekly holiday was suddenly changed by the then Government from Sunday to Friday without any consultation with trade and industry. Since then, the changes has cost the economy very dearly, as with nearly 30% of the economy being externalized and the main trading partners observing Sundays as weekly holidays, the country's importers and exporters have been losing business transactions for two days in a week. Quite naturally, no economy can continue to suffer in this manner without any valid justification as the recess of 1.5 hours which was allowed in Fridays, proved to be adequate for Jamma prayers.

We, therefore, urge upon the Government, on behalf of the country's trade and industry, to withdraw the imposition and let the business and industry take decisions according to their business requirements. We are convinced that the sooner the weekly holiday is changed from Friday to Sunday, it will prove to be beneficial to the economy.

Dated, Dhaka,
The 20 March, 1997

Sd/-
(Samson H. Chowdhury)
PRESIDENT
Metropolitan Chamber of
Commerce and Industry, Dhaka

Sd/-
(Mahbub Jamil)
PRESIDENT
Foreign Investors Chamber
of Commerce and Industry

Sd/-
(Imtiyaz Husain)
CHAIRMAN
Dhaka Stock Exchange

Sd/-
(Mustafa Golam Quddus)
PRESIDENT
Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers &
Exporters Association

Appendix - 22 (3)**THE BUDGET FOR 1998-99**

(Reproduced from the Annual Report, For the Year ended 31 July 1998, MCCI, Dhaka, PP. 171-72)

The 1998-99 budget presented by the Finance Minister, Mr SAMS Kibria has many progressive features, indicating an emphasis on fiscal policy for economic growth rather than merely revenue collection. We assume that the Finance Minister has targeted a growth rate of 6.3% of the FY 1998-99 as projected in the Fifth Five Year Plan. We congratulate the Finance Minister for having accepted a fairly challenging target.

The Finance Minister held several pre-budget meetings with various chambers and associations. We are pleased to see that many of the suggestions from the MCCI and others are reflected in the budget.

We welcome the various measures to boost industrial growth and export such a reduction of duties of raw materials and intermediate goods, continuation of 25% support for textile exports, concrete measures to address the problem of the sick industry, export support to jute industry, incentive in agro-processing, leather, plastics and computer sector.

Also welcome are the measures to boost the capital market but it is hoped that the previously allowed tax exemption up to Tk 30,000 divided income will continue for the benefit of the small investors. Measures to improve public transport and contain environment pollution from two-stroke engines are steps in the right direction. While reduction of corporate taxes on listed financial institutions is welcome, general reduction in corporate tax was expected. Imposition VAT on cement, CI sheet and MS products as infrastructure building materials is counter productive for development and should be reviewed.

A major area of concern in unabated revenue expenditure increase on unproductive heads which leads to stagnant ADP contribution from domestic resources. We hope that the substantial increase in allocation for the police will not be spent on manpower alone but also for much needed improvement in the logistics so that the investment translates into an improvement in the deteriorating law and order situation.

Also, fiscal incentives to boost economic growth will be negated unless reforms are strengthened and drainage of resources through SOEs is stop through privatization, and close watch is kept on monetary policy and interest rates.

With increasing and large foreign investments in the oil, gas, and electricity sectors, there will be huge and growing foreign exchange outflows in the coming years. Therefore, rapid export earnings growth is badly needed, particularly in view of the already fragile reserves position. There is not much in the budget to indicate a major export thrust, particularly in view of the loss in competitiveness due to continued appreciation of the Taka against the South Asian and South East Asian currencies. In particular, it is imperative that the existing exchange rate policy be reviewed to directly address the issue of the competitiveness of our tradeables against Indian goods.

Dated, Dhaka.
June 12, 1998

Sd/-
(Laila Rahman Kabir)
PRESIDENT
MCCI, Dhaka

Appendix - 22 (4)

CONCERNED OVER THE FREQUENCY OF HARTALS

(Reproduced from the Annual Report, For the Year ended 31 July 1998, MCCI, Dhaka, P. 43)

The trade and industry is quite concerned over the frequency of hartals which are being called. Hartal may be fundamental right to express one's grievances but it is established that it seriously affects the economy, particularly the smaller section of the business community. What is more regrettable is that for enforcing hartal, wide- spread violence is being resorted, which provide anti-social element with opportunities to indulge in looting, breaking of means of transportation, etc. Quite naturally, such a trend will endanger the fragile socio-economic fabric of the country and will pose a serious threat to the country's future. There is no way for Bangladesh to survive in the global market if the socio-political environment remains hostile to investment and economic activities. This will be dangerous as a country with 30% unemployment cannot but seek investments to create employment opportunities. In any case, hartal which has been so indiscriminately called the recent years, no longer signifies anything except imposition of suffering on the people by sheer force and violent means.

The trade and industry, therefore, expects all political parties will make an objective review if hartal serves any purpose. It is our sincere expectation that an alternate means of expressing political differences may be found which will not compromise on the future of the teeming millions of a poor country like that of ours.

Dated, Dhaka,
November 30, 1998

Sd/-
(A. S. M. Quasem)
PRESIDENT
The Dhaka Chamber of
Commerce & Industry

Sd/-
(Mustafa Golam Quddus)
PRESIDENT
Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers &
Exporters Association

Sd/-
(Rokia A Rahman)
PRESIDENT
Bangladesh Employers' Association

Sd/-
(Mahbub Jamil)
PRESIDENT
Foreign Investors Chamber
of Commerce and Industry

Sd/-
(Samson H. Chowdhury)
PRESIDENT
MCCI, Dhaka

Sd/-
(Md. Shahjahan)
CHAIRMAN
Bangladesh Textile Mills Association

Appendix - 22 (5)

**APPEAL TO POLITICAL PARTIES TO MAKE AN OBJECTIVE REVIEW
IF HARTAL SERVES ANY PURPOSE**

(Reproduced from the Annual Report, For the Year ended 31 July 1998, MCCI, Dhaka, P. 52)

Trade industry regrets that is repeated appeals in the last several years to political parties to make an objective review if hartal serves any purpose, do not appear to have been given due consideration. The trade and industry recognises that hartal is a fundamental right to express one's grievances. At the same time, it expects that there will not be differences of opinion that hartal affects the economy, particularly the smaller section of the business community and causes inexplicable sufferings to the people. In a poor country like ours, dislocation of the economy and sufferings of the people cannot strengthen any cause. In facts political programmes which do not take onto account the representative feelings on such issues not only do not help in achieving their objectives but also erode the confidence of the public on political parties which undertake them. In view of the critical period through which our economy is passing due to the South East Asian economic crisis, we once again appeal to all political parties to refrain from using hartals as the means of expressing political differences at present and also in future, because of them harm the inflict on the economy.

Dated, Dhaka
July 06, 1998

Sd/-
(R. Maksud Khan)
PRESIDENT
The Dhaka Chamber of
Commerce & Industry

Sd/-
(A. K. M. Shamsuddin)
PRESIDENT
Foreign Investors Chamber
of Commerce and Industry

Sd/-
(Md. Shajahan)
CHAIRMAN
Bangladesh Textile Mills Association

Sd/-
(Laila Rahman Kabir)
PRESIDENT
MCCI, Dhaka

Sd/-
(Mustafa Golam Quddus)
PRESIDENT
Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers &
Exporters Association

Sd/-
(Md. Golam Mostafa)
PRESIDENT
Bangladesh Foreign Foods
Exporters Association

Appendix - 22 (6)

**HIGH CONCERN OVER THE ISSUE OF WARRANTS OF ARRESTS
AND HARASSMENTS OF RESPECTED CITIZENS**

(Reproduced from the Annual Report, For the Year ended 31 July 2007, MCCI, Dhaka, P. 37)

The business community is deeply shocked and highly concerned over the issue of warrants of arrests against Prof Rehman Sobhan, Mr M Sayeduzzaman, Mr Syed Manzur Elahi, Mrs Laila Rahman Kabir and Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya. The warrants have been issued on the petition of the Executive Chairman, Board of Investment, Mr Mahmudur Rahman, as a follow-up to the controversies generated following his unusually harsh allegation that the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) provided fictitious information about the country's economy.

In his petition Mr Mahmudur Rahman alleged that CPD at its Press Conference on 8th August 2006, had labelled him as a Razakar, thereby tarnishing his reputation. It is now evident from the TV recordings which were extensively broadcast by various TV Channels on 9 August 2006 that CPD did not make any allegation about Mr Mahmudur Rahman being a Razakar. Therefore, it is now clear that the very premise on which the warrants were arrests were issued was totally baseless.

The entire situation arose out of the Executive Chairman's apparent attitude that he is the sole custodian of correct information and data on investment position. It appears that since CPD's work in compiling information and data relating to investment was not necessarily in tune with Bol's own projections, it brought about the discourteous, unseemly and unacceptable accusatory remarks about CPD.

It must be categorically stated that anyone including trade bodies of Bangladesh, have the right to compile data and information and make analysis on any aspect of the country's activities, including its economy. Differences of views and opinions can and will exist in a free, pluralistic and democratic society. Such differences can always be discussed and debated in a civilized manner. Resorting to criminal proceedings which has resulted in arrest warrants against such eminent citizens of the country, including economists, former ministers/ bureaucrats and leaders of trade organizations are totally unwarranted and must be condemned in the strongest manner.

The business community fears that such attempts as harassment will only damage the country's image and investment climate. The business community appeals to the highest authority of the government to intervene immediately and ensure that the country's think-tanks, civil society and trade organizations are not threatened and harassed by high-handed legal and administrative mechanism.

Dated: 10 August 2007

Sd/-
(Mir Nasir Hossain)
President
The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of
Commerce & Industry

Sd/-
(Hossain Khaled)
Acting President
The Dhaka Chamber
of Commerce and Industry

Sd/-
(Saifuzzaman Chowdhury)
President
Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Sd/-
(M. Shamsul Alam)
Chairman
Bangladesh Insurance Association

Sd/-
(A. K. Azad)
President
Bangladesh Chamber of Industries

Sd/-
(S. M. Fazlul Hoque)
President
Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers &
Exporters Association

Sd/-
(Mahbubur Rahman)
President
ICC-Bangladesh

Sd/-
(Latifur Rahman)
President
Metropolitan Chamber of
Commerce & Industry, Dhaka

Sd/-
(Md. Fazlul Hoque)
President
Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers
& Export Association

Sd/-
(O. R. Khan)
Vice President
Bangladesh Employers' Federation

Appendix - 22 (7)

EXPECTATION OF PEACEFUL ELECTION

(Reproduced from the Annual Report, For the Year ended 31 July 2002, MCCI, Dhaka, P. 33)

The economic stake at the forthcoming national election is far too great to be enumerated. Quite naturally, the business community sincerely expects that the election will be held peacefully and will provide a stable government to give leadership to economic progress which is required for the country's teeming millions. To ensure a peaceful environment during the election, the administrative and security measures which have been taken are fairly exhaustive. We trust that the Government machinery and the law enforcing agencies entrusted with the election process will discharge their sacred duties fairly and courageously.

What is important is the goodwill of the political parties and more particularly, their commitment to strengthening of the democratization process. The major political parties have already committed themselves to peaceful election and its results. On behalf of the business community, we sincerely hope that through graceful acceptance of election results, our political parties will show to the world that the national aspirations for democracy and economic stability are much above the party interests.

It is well-known that the country's export earnings are under threat particularly due to the recent turmoil in the international arena. The garments sector which is more threatened than at any time before, has already reported loss of orders worth millions of U.S dollars. It falls on all political parties to the looming economic crisis by ensuring peaceful environment during the election and accepting the people's verdict.

Dated, Dhaka.
29 September, 2001

Sd/-
(Benajir Ahmed)
President
The Dhaka Chamber
of Commerce and Industry

Sd/-
(Latifur Rahman)
President
Metropolitan Chamber of
Commerce & Industry, Dhaka

Sd/-
(Kutubuddin Ahmed)
President
Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers &
Exporters Association

Appendix - 22 (8)**MCCI, DHAKA CONGRATULATES THE CARETAKER GOVERNMENT
FOR IMPROVING THE OPERATIONS OF CHITTAGONG PORT**

(Reproduced from the Annual Report, For the Year ended 31 July 2007, MCCI, Dhaka, PP. 41-42)

Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Dhaka (MCCI) congratulates the Caretaker Government for the measures it has taken to improve the operations of Chittagong Port. The measures have already helped improve efficiency in cargo handling and privatization of the country's soon to be operational New Mooring Container Terminal. The Chittagong Port efficiency featured consistently in the proposals, which our Chamber has been submitting to the Government for improving the country's economy. We discussed the issue with the Chief Adviser and then with the Advisers in charge of the Ministers of Finance, Commerce in the recent meetings. We are grateful that they have taken the requisite moves, which were pending for many years.

It may be recalled that Chittagong Port, which handles 80% of the country's foreign trade, became famous for its slow cargo handling, congestions and corruption. The turn-around time for feeder vessels in Chittagong is on an average 10 days compared with 2 days in Bangkok, 1 day in Singapore, 3 days in Mumbai and 5 days in Kolkata. The average cost of handling a 20 feet container at the Chittagong Port is around 300% higher than those of other regional hub ports like Singapore, Colombo, Mumbai and Bangkok. This is despite the fact that tariff Charges for Chittagong Port were fixed as late as in October 1986. In addition to the higher cost, the level and quantum of unseen costs were unbelievable high.

Now, a few measures have changed the entire situation and the Port's performance has improved significantly. We are confident that these measures will go a long way not only to increase the Port's efficiency but to improve the over-all competitiveness of the country's economy.

We take this opportunity in re-emphasizing that privatization of the facilities of all services should be done through transparent and open bidding process. The operation of the New Mooring Container by private operators should also be decided in a transparent and fair international bidding process.

We are confident that things can be improved further if the right type of private sector operators are selected.

Dated: Dhaka,
The 13 March 2007.

Sd/-
(Latifur Rahman)
President
MCCI, Dhaka

Appendix - 22 (9)

AN APPEAL TO THE OPPOSITION PARTY TO WITHDRAWN THE HARTAL

(Reproduced from the Annual Report, For the Year ended 31 July 2012, MCCI, Dhaka, PP. 35-36)

At this time when the global economy is coming out of recession and Bangladesh is showing the favorable signs of sustained high economic growth, policy continuity and stable political environment is of crucial importance to achieve our socio-economic objectives as a nation.

The business community is gravely concerned about the confrontational politics that has become a threat to our development potentials.

Our 40% annual export growth in the tandem with favorable yields in agriculture, and moderate growth in manufacturing and service industries has yielded a 6.7% growth in GDP in the 2010-2011 fiscal year. Bangladesh achieved 5.7% of real GDP growth against 5% negative growth of the global economy in 2008-2009 at the time of peak global recession. This trend continued in 2009-2010 and 6.1% real GDP growth was achieved. This shows the strength of our economy and the validity of the business sector. The stable sovereign country ratings in consecutive two years reflect the confidence our economy is enjoying among the domestic and foreign investors.

Unfortunately, repeated calls for hartals by different interest groups do not allow business activities to continue unobstructed at the pace necessary to engender the desired economic growth. The business community still remembers the bleak days in the past when frequent hartals for extended periods kept the economy stand-still. Hartals will make our economy decelerate, and our markets will shift to other countries where more stable political climate exists. We need to avoid this situation by all means.

Our Chamber would like to urge all parties and interest groups to stay away from all political activities that are counter-productive. What our nation needs most at the time is commitment from our politicians to the cause of the common people, and their pledge to make the nation free from poverty and create employment opportunity for all.

Our politicians need to bear in mind that the objective of graduating to a middle income country in near future is a common national objective, and not the election pledge of any political party. Similarly, poverty reduction programs are our national programs, and not the program of any particular Government. In politics, there will be differences in opinions, but those differences must not keep the livelihood of the people as hostage.

Our Chamber also acknowledges that there is no alternative to keeping the democratic process alive and making the democratic institutions stronger as the key factor for inclusive socio-economic growth. There are other means to settle the differences of opinions other than hartals and politics of destruction and repression.

In this regard, we feel that the current political situation can be made more people-friendly and business-friendly if the ruling and opposition parties demonstrate tolerance and are willing to settle their differences through dialogues and negotiations.

We, appeal to all to abandon confrontations and start dialogues. It would save the country's economy and people's well-being from dislocation. We urge upon all political parties to uphold the country's interest first and refrain from such activities which seriously affects the economic growth and prospect the country.

We, therefore, appeal to the opposition party to withdrawn the hartal called on the 22 September 2011 by four parties' alliance in the greater interest of the nation.

Dated: Dhaka
The 21 September 2011

Sd/-
[Maj. Gen. Amjad Khan Chowdhury (Retd.)]
President
MCCI, Dhaka

Appendix - 22 (10)

BANKING COMPANIES BILL, 1991: REQUESTS TO SOLICIT PUBLIC OPINION

(Reproduced from the Annual Report, For the Year ended 31 July 1991, MCCI, Dhaka, P. 44)

Banking Companies Bill, 1991 introduced in the parliament is a legislation which vitally affects the country's economy in general and the banking sector in particular. It contains some basic and fundamental provisions which are contrary to the existing Companies Act and Banking Companies Ordinance, 1962. The Chamber strongly feels that such an important legislation should be put up for public opinion before it is discussed and approved by the Parliament. It is only through discussion that the need for changes in the existing banking legislation can be correctly identified.

On behalf of business community, the Chamber requests the Finance Minister to solicit public opinion.

Dated, Dhaka
The 2 May, 1991

Sd/-
(Samson H. Chowdhury)
Vice-President
MCCI, Dhaka

Appendix - 23 (1)

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
AND
METROPOLITAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, DHAKA


Preamble

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry (BCC&I) is the oldest and most prestigious trade body in India holding a unique position by virtue of its close association with all the major industries in Eastern India and as a promoter of the Associated Chamber of Commerce & Industry of India.

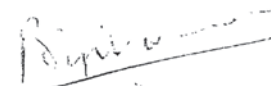
Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka (MCC&I) is the oldest and most representative trade organisation in Bangladesh having in its membership roll all prestigious and established industrial and commercial organisations including almost all the Public Sector Corporations.


BCC&I and MCC&I are well placed to promote trade and industrial cooperation between India and Bangladesh through exchange of information on trade, investment, transfer of technology etc. The two organisations therefore agree to strengthen cooperation between them for the mutual benefit of the two countries.

BCC&I and MCC&I accordingly hereby enter into a memorandum of understanding as set out in the following Clauses:

1. BCC&I and MCC&I agree to provide full cooperation to each other for the promotion of trade and investment both in India and Bangladesh.
- 

2. BCC&I and MCC&I agree to exchange information on trade and investment of both the countries.
3. BCC&I and MCC&I agree to support activities such as seminars, conferences and courses in India and Bangladesh in sectors to be agreed upon by both organisations.
4. BCC&I and MCC&I agree to exchange trade and investment delegations in order to strengthen the economic relationship and understanding.
5. BCC&I and MCC&I agree to make efforts for simplification of visas for business travels by their members between India and Bangladesh.
6. BCC&I and MCC&I will co-operate with each other in any other areas which will help achieve the above mentioned objectives or which might promote relationship between their respective members.
7. The representatives of the two organisations will meet periodically to review the progress on the issues mentioned earlier and make out plans for future cooperation. Such meetings will be held in turn in both countries.
8. This agreement has been signed in Dhaka on the 1st day of November, 1992 and is drawn up in duplicate in English. Each party has one copy.


(Biji K. Kurien)
President
The Bengal Chamber of
Commerce and Industry


(M. Morshed Khan)
President
Metropolitan Chamber of
Commerce and Industry, Dhaka

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AGREEMENT OF CO-OPERATION
BETWEEN
THE CEYLON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
AND
METROPOLITAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY, DHAKA

PREAMBLE

The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce (hereinafter called the Ceylon Chamber) founded in 1839, is the most senior Chamber in Sri Lanka, and representative of all businesses. Its membership includes every type of business - export, industry, import, banking, tourism, shipping, services - and every size of business, from the sole proprietor to the multi-national. The Chamber's membership accounts for a significant proportion of business activity in Sri Lanka, particularly in the international sector.

Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka (hereinafter called the MCC&I) having been established in 1904 is one of the oldest trade organisation in the South Asian Sub-Continent and the most representative trade body in Bangladesh, having in its membership roll all prestigious and established industrial and commercial organisations including nearly all the Public Sector Corporations.

The Ceylon Chamber and MCC&I are thus well placed to promote trade and industrial co-operation between Sri Lanka and Bangladesh through exchange of information on trade, investment, transfer of technology etc. The two organisations having agreed to strengthen co-operation between them for the mutual benefit of the two countries hereby enter into a Memorandum of Understanding as set out in the following Articles:

ARTICLE I

The Ceylon Chamber and MCC&I shall co-operate and do their utmost to further improve and expand trade, joint ventures and technology transfers between Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.

ARTICLE II

The Ceylon Chamber and MCC&I shall regularly exchange information and views on the possibilities for widening mutual co-operation and promotion of trade, joint ventures and technology transfer between the two countries.

In the realisation of that objective they will supply each other with the traditional printing materials published by them, special issues, economic literature and prospects.



ARTICLE III

Facility and assistance shall be accorded to businessmen, trade missions from Bangladesh visiting Sri Lanka and vice-versa. Letters of introduction from one party to the other shall be mutually honoured.

ARTICLE IV

The Ceylon Chamber and MCC&I agree to assist each other in participation in fairs, exhibitions and expositions.

ARTICLE V

The Ceylon Chamber and MCC&I agree to support and encourage exchange of trade delegations and missions as well as visits of businessmen either individually or in groups between the two countries and to assist joint businessmen's meetings.

ARTICLE VI

In order to encourage the mutual understanding of Sri Lankan and Bangladeshi social and economic conditions, the Ceylon Chamber and MCC&I will consider all forms of co-operation relative to management and technical training.

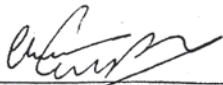
ARTICLE VII

Both the Ceylon Chamber and MCC&I shall take all necessary steps to ensure that this agreement works to their mutual benefits, and that it is jointly reviewed occasionally, at least once in three years. Such meetings will be held in Colombo and Dhaka in turn.

ARTICLE VIII


This agreement shall come into force as from the date of its signing until mutually revised by both parties.

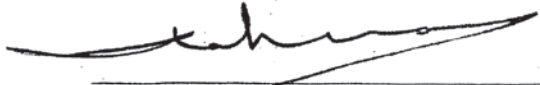
Dated: September 07, 1994.



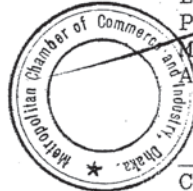
A. C. GUNASINGHE
CHAIRMAN
THE CEYLON CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE.





C. G. JAYASURIYA
SECRETARY-GENERAL
THE CEYLON CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE.



LATIFUR RAHMAN
PRESIDENT
METROPOLITAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
AND INDUSTRY, DHAKA.




C. K. HYDER
SECRETARY-GENERAL
METROPOLITAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
AND INDUSTRY, DHAKA.

Appendix - 24
 Newspaper Supplementary of Diamond Jubilee
 Daily Ittefaq, 20 June 1979



তিনটি রুটিন ক্লের সম্পর্কে আলোচনা

একটি রুটিন ক্লের...
 একটি রুটিন ক্লের...
 একটি রুটিন ক্লের...



বাণী
 একটি রুটিন ক্লের...
 একটি রুটিন ক্লের...



বাণী
 একটি রুটিন ক্লের...
 একটি রুটিন ক্লের...

আমাদের উন্নয়নকৌশল—শিলায়ন

উন্নয়ন কৌশল...
 উন্নয়ন কৌশল...
 উন্নয়ন কৌশল...

**নারায়ণগঞ্জ বণিক সমিতি—
 এক বিরল সেবার ৭৫ বছর**

—সি কে হারদার

সম্পাদক, নারায়ণগঞ্জ শির ও বণিক সমিতি

সত্তর বছর ইতিহাসে কোন নীর্ণ সময় নয়। বহু ইতিহাস, সুবীর্ণকাল ঘরে গড়ে উঠা ও উঁকে যাওয়া বিভিন্ন প্রতিষ্ঠানের অসাধারণ পরিপূর্ণ। তবুও একটি সাংগঠন বা পঁচাত্তর বছরের এক সুবীর্ণ সময়ে অনেক বাধা-বিপত্তি অতিক্রম করে উঁকে আরে—তার অভিজ্ঞতাও অনেক হঠাৎ এবং সেগুলো পুণ্য বাণিক্য ও শিরের অগ্রই তাৎপর্যপূর্ণ নয়, অসংখ্য সাংগঠন ও এগুলোর তত্ত্ব রয়েছে। নারায়ণগঞ্জ শির ও বণিক সমিতি এ ঘরনের একটি সাংগঠন হওয়ার অগ্র সতিই তাগায়ান। ১৮৯৯ সালে উপমহাদেশে প্রথম বিদ্যুৎ শক্তি প্রবর্তিত হওয়ার পর, বর্তমান লতাশ্রী এক সংগঠনের পর্বতের এই সংলগ্ন প্রতিষ্ঠিত হয়। এর প্রতিষ্ঠা দুই ঐতিহাসিক ঘটনার সূত্রে সম্পন্ন হয়। এক, প্রথমবারের মত ডাইনামি নির্মাণী পরিষদের একজন সংস্কৃত নেতৃত্ব ১৯০৪ সালে শির ও বণিক সমিতির প্রতিষ্ঠা—এ আবারিক শির ও বণিক সমিতি উৎসাহন বহির্ বাপারে মনুষ্য অনুপ্রেরণা যোগায় এবং ১৯০৫ সালে লতা শ্রী কালনের বঙ্গ বিভাগ। এই বঙ্গ বিভাগের ফলে, হটল পদা বর্ধন করার লক্ষ্যে ভারতীয় নিয়োজ্যেভাদের তৎপরতা উল্লেখযোগ্য হারে বৃদ্ধি পায়। এই সংসদ ১৯০৫ ও ১৯০৯ সালের দুই বিধুসু, ১৯৪০ সালের ভারতীয় মুক্তি, ১৯৬৭ সালের স্বাধীনতা আন্দোলন এবং ১৯৭৯ সালের স্বাধীনতা আন্দোলন প্রত্যাক করেছে। ঘটনার এমন পট পরিবর্তন এবং স্বাধীনতা মুক্তির এমন সঠিক বিশেষ আর্থ কোষাও এমনভাবে সম্পন্ন হয়নি। নারায়ণগঞ্জ শির ও বণিক সমিতি সেই সূত্রে লোক করেছে দেশ বিভাগের অপূর্ণ অভিজ্ঞতা, প্রত্যাক ক্ষেত্রে দেশের জনগণের হাতে বিদেশী শাসকদের ক্ষমতা হস্তান্তর এবং বেঁচে থাকার নাটকে পালন করেছে এক সঠিক ভূমিকা। উপমহাদেশে এমন সংগঠন খুব কমই আছে, যেগুলোকে এই সংসদের সূত্রে বীর্ণবুর বাপারে অর্থবা প্রভাব প্রতিপত্তির তুলনা করা যেতে পারে।

এমন এই সংসদের বিকাশ-ধারা যা এই সংসদের দর্শন সম্পর্কে বিস্তারিত বিবরণ আভাষ সত্তোষটিতে তুলে ধরা যেতে পারে। এ বাপারে গত ৭৪ বছরে যেসব পরিবর্তন সংঘটিত হয়েছে, সেগুলোর উল্লেখ করা প্রাসঙ্গিক হবে না। এসব পরিবর্তনকে দুই ভাগে ভাগ করা যেতে পারে: (১) পোল-যোগসূত্র ও ভারতীয় উদ্যান-পতন এবং (২) নীরণ ও কম পট পরিবর্তন।

সমনসাময়িক ইতিহাস প্রথম ধরনের পরিবর্তনের নমিত্রে পরিপূর্ণ। এসব পরিবর্তনের ধরনই ছিল বিক্ষোভ, অসন্তোষ, আপোলন, সরকার পরিবর্তন ইত্যাদি। এগুলোকে ঐতিহাসিক উদ্যান পতন হিসেবে আখ্যায়িত করা যেতে পারে। বিত্তীয় ধরনের পরিবর্তন ঘটেছে সম্পূর্ণ বিপরীত-ভাবে। এসব পরিবর্তন পুরোপুরি বাস্তবায়িত অর্থাৎ প্রতিষ্ঠিত না (১৮৭ পৃষ্ঠা)

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CREDITS

The idea of writing a book on the Chamber's history was first mooted by the president of the Chamber (2011-2012), Maj Gen (Retd) Amjad Khan Chowdhury. Accordingly an Editorial Board was formed by the Chamber Committee on 25 July 2011 to supervise the compilation of the history of the Chamber as under:

Convener: Ms Nihad Kabir, Vice President
Members: Mr M Azizul Huq, Mr Habibullah N Karim, Mr Kamran T Rahman

With the retirement of Ms Nihad Kabir and Mr Habibullah N Karim from the Chamber Committee in 2012, the Editorial Board did not formally convene that year. The Editorial Board continued to function again in 2013 when it was reconstituted as under:

Convener: Mr Anis A Khan, Vice President
Members: Mr Akhter Matin Chaudhury, FCA, Mr Habibullah N Karim, Mr Kamran T Rahman

At the recommendation of this Editorial Board, in February 2014, the Chamber commissioned Dr Fakrul Alam, Professor of Department of English, the University of Dhaka and Dr Aksadul Alam, Associate Professor of Department of History, the University of Dhaka to gather facts on the Chamber's past and write the history of the Chamber in a manner that would be a pleasure to read. Dr Aksadul Alam was in charge of research into the past of the Chamber and putting the salient facts and snippets in the form of an easy-to-read narrative while Dr Fakrul Alam was in charge of sub-editing the book with a view to ensuring quality and consistency in the narrative. The authors did a splendid job despite severe time constraints.

Under the leadership of the President of the Chamber (2013-2014), Ms Rokia Afzal Rahman, the Chamber Committee formed a Publication Sub-Committee on 6 March 2014 to supervise the publication works for the 110th anniversary of the Chamber, including the Chamber's history, as under:

Convener: Mr Habibullah N Karim
Members: Mr Tabith Awal, Mr Kamran T Rahman

Although this Publications Sub-Committee formally assumed the responsibilities pertaining to all publication related affairs and subsumed the tasks hitherto looked after by the Editorial Board, the President, Ms Rokia Afzal Rahman and members of the Committee, namely, Mr Anis A Khan, Vice President, Mr Syed Tareque Md Ali, Mr Akhter Matin Chaudhury, FCA, and Mr Mamun Rashid contributed generously towards this endeavor. Other members of the Chamber Committee also helped with their considered views on the work in progress from time to time. Every effort was made to ensure that the history book of the Chamber titled "MCCI – A Journey (1904-2014)" is a

book worthy of the great legacy the Chamber represents. Despite the best of intentions of all who were involved in this seminal undertaking there might still be errors and/or omissions that escaped our attention. The Chamber would be most grateful if the readers inform the Chamber Secretariat of any such lapses.

The Chamber regularly publishes a number of journals for many years now that are quite well-received among the cognoscenti. However, this is the first time the Chamber is coming out with a compendium of such dimension and depth. An immense indebtedness is due to all who made this book a reality.

MCCI

October 2014