





# CALORIE

ক্যালোরিবিহীন জিরোক্যাল দিয়ে এখন পছন্দের মিষ্টি খাবার খান সাধ মিটিয়ে, নিশ্চিন্তে

- ভায়াবেটিক রোগীদের জন্য চিনির সেরা বিকল্প জিরোক্যাল
- গর্ভবতী মহিলা, শিশু ও ব্য়োবৃদ্ধ-সহ সবার জন্য নিরাপদ
- একটি স্যাশে বা একটি ট্যাবলেট এক চা-চামচ চিনির সমান মিষ্টি







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# **VISION**

▶ Be the leading voice serving responsible business



# MISSION

- Become the leading Chamber for providing research and analysis related to business in Bangladesh
- Attract quality membership, representative of a cross section of business
- Effectively respond to changing business environment
- Collaborate with local and international institutions
- ▶ Engage and communicate regularly with our stakeholders
- Promote best practices that benefit business and society



# **VALUES**

- Fairness
- Integrity
- Respect
- Equal Opportunity



# CORE COMPETENCIES - ORGANISATION

- Research based Policy Advocacy
- Networking
- Business Intelligence



# CORE COMPETENCIES – PEOPLE

- Professional
- Innovative
- Adaptable
- ▶ Team Player
- Proactive
- ▶ Communication & Interpersonal Skills

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# CONTENTS

CHAMBER NEWS / ISSUE- 3 / MARCH 2017

**FDITORIAL** 

05

Bangladesh can become the world's 23rd largest economy by 2050: PwC report

**ARTICLE** 

07

Targeting the right customers to get optimal results

**NATIONAL NEWS** 

09

**CORPORATE NEWS** 

12

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

14

**REVIEW** 

27

Foreign trade Export earnings

Import payments

Exchange rate movements

Stock market

**STATISTICS** 

30

Major economic indicators-Bangladesh

Value of letters of credit

Export performance of Bangladesh

Production of selected industrial items

Consumer Price Index : National Consumer Price Index : Rural

Consumer Price Index : Warat

Wage rate index by sectors: Bangladesh

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS** 

37

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Farm From a Box to Promote Community Farming



17 NEW PRODUCTS

Gita Personal Cargo Bot



19 MEMBER PROFILE

A.K. Khan & Company Ltd.



20 COUNTRY PROFILE

China



22 MEMBERS NEWS

Nestlé Bangladesh Limited signs MOU for 'Nestlé Healthy Kids Programme'



25 CHAMBER EVENTS

The new office bearers of MCCI, Dhaka met Commerce Minister.



# **EDITORIAL**

# BANGLADESH CAN BECOME THE WORLD'S 23RD LARGEST ECONOMY BY 2050: Pwc REPORT



In the latest update of its flagship report titled "The World in 2050: How Will the Global Economic Order Change?" PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC). London-based multinational services network, mentions that Bangladesh has the potential to become the world's 23rd largest economy by 2050. The report also predicts that Bangladesh would be the 28th largest economy by 2030, from 31st in 2016. Released in February 2017, the report ranks the top 32 economies that altogether account for 85 percent of global GDP measured in purchasing power parity (PPP) terms. Major conclusions of the report are summed up in the following.

- (1) The world economy could more than double in size by 2050, assuming broadly growth-friendly policies in place (for example, no sustained long-term retreat into protectionism) and no major global civilization-threatening catastrophes.
- (2) Emerging markets will continue to be the major growth engine of the global economy. The E7 economies of Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Russia and Turkey could grow at an annual average rate of almost 3.5% over the next 34 years, compared to just 1.6% for the advanced G7 nations of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the UK and the US.
- (3) With the continual shift in global economic power away from established

advanced economies, especially those in Europe, the E7 could have increased their share of world GDP from around 35% to almost 50%, while the share of G7 would decline to only just over 20%, and that of EU27 to less than 10% of

global GDP by 2050.

- (4) With around 20% of world GDP, China is forecast to become the largest global economy in 2050, followed by India, the USA, and Indonesia.
- (5) A number of other emerging markets will also take center stage Mexico could be larger than the UK and Germany by 2050 in PPP terms, and six out of the seven largest economies in the world could by that time be today's emerging markets.
- (6) After the transitional impact of Brexit has passed, UK growth has the potential to outpace the average growth rate in the EU27. The report, however, projects Poland to emerge as the fastest growing large EU economy during this period.
- (7) Vietnam, India, and Bangladesh could be the world's fastest growing economies over the period to 2050, averaging growth of around 5% a year.
- (8) The developed economies of the present day will continue to have higher average incomes, but emerging economies shall make good progress toward closing the gap by 2050. This will open up opportunities for businesses to make long-term investment in these markets.
- (9) The world economy will slow down over time, with a marked moderation in

growth rates after 2020. Annual global economic growth will average 3.5% over the next 4 years to 2020, slowing down to 2.7% for 2021-2030, 2.5% for the decade after that, and 2.4% for 2041-2050. This will occur as many advanced economies experience a marked decline in their working-age populations. At the same time, emerging market growth rates will moderate as these economies mature, which is consistent with findings of major researches that growth rates have a tendency to 'regress to the mean' in the long run.

The PwC report shows the immense emerging potential the growth economies have in the coming decades, but it also points out that in order to fully realize this potential, governments of the emerging economies will need to implement structural reforms to improve macroeconomic stability, diversify their economies away from undue reliance on natural resources, and develop more effective political and legal institutions. In this context, the report points out a number of challenges, especially governments and policymakers emerging markets, to achieve sustainable growth. For one thing, they must undertake sustained and effective investment in education, infrastructure and technology. For another, they must diversify their economies, which is critically important for long-term sustainable growth. Other challenges for achieving sustainable long-term growth are declining global trade growth, rising inequality and increasing geopolitical uncertainties.

Bangladesh currently holds the 31st position in the PwC rankings and is predicted to reach the 28th position by 2030, surpassing the likes of South Africa and the Netherlands. This growth trajectory is expected to continue, and by

2050, developed nations like Australia and Spain are likely to fall behind this country. Bangladesh's GDP based on PPP stood at US \$628 billion in 2016. This is projected to more than double by 2030 by reaching US \$1,324 billion, and grow almost five times its current size in 2050 (US \$3,064 billion). The projected high GDP growth is bringing in foreign investors in our country, especially from the US, the UK and Singapore. The cumulative FDI from these three countries accounted for 47% of Bangladesh's net FDI inflows in 2015. The driving force behind FDI in Bangladesh is the combination of (1) low labor cost that makes manufactured exports globally competitive, and (2) a growing domestic market made possible by the growing middle-class, which now comprises of nearly a third of the country's total population. Bangladesh should not, however, remain complacent about that but improve its position visà-vis other countries that are becoming increasingly competitive.

Bangladesh has been showing a robust growth for quite some time now, thanks to strong domestic demand. Public investment has been on the increase, making the country's GDP prospects stronger. According to World Bank estimates, Bangladesh GDP is expected to grow at over 6% annually during the next few years. Also, large infrastructure investments in power, roads, communications and transportation are now underway - which should help boost the country's GDP.

The overall situation in Bangladesh is not, however, as rosy as is given to understand, as findings of two recent survey reports – the World Bank's Doing Business 2017 Report, and the World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Report 2016-17 – would seem to indicate. Bangladesh is ranked 174th (out of 189 countries) in the Doing Business 2017 report and 106th (out of 138 countries) in the Global Competitiveness Report 2016-17.

In the Doing Business Report 2017, Bangladesh's rank in 'starting a business', in 'qetting credit', in 'protecting minority investors', and in 'paying taxes' has fallen significantly. Also, there has been no improvement in the country's position in respect of dealing with 'construction permits, 'getting electricity', 'trading across borders', and in 'enforcing contracts'. Also, there has been very little improvement in the parameters of 'enforcing contracts', 'registering property', and 'resolving insolvency'. Furthermore, despite some improvement in recent times, reliable supply of electricity still remains a serious problem for Bangladesh, although it is vital for industry and business.

The Global Competitiveness Report (GCR) of World Economic Forum in turn identifies inadequate infrastructure and corruption as two major problems Bangladesh has been facing for a long time. The country has lost some ground in macroeconomic environment as well, which is reflected in the increasing number of loan defaults, slow implementation of ADP and weak revenue collection by government. The country needs to strive to improve in all these areas to ensure its continued growth in the near and distant future.

There has been little or no progress in health, primary education, higher education and training. Areas in which some progress is in sight but which still require increased attention are institutional strength, financial market development, labor market efficiency, innovation, and technological readiness. Other problems requiring quick remedial measures are inadequately educated workforce, high tax rates, policy instability, complex tax regulations, corruption, cumbersome foreign currency regulations, insufficient capacity to innovate, poor work ethics in national labor force and poor public health.

Bangladesh also suffers from the problem of having too much of the population

inactive i.e., they are neither busy with jobs nor involved in studies. This is a serious challenge, and the country needs to engage all in order to completely reap the benefits of its demographic dividend.

Findings of the World Bank's and the WEF's Reports cited above provide important lessons for Bangladesh's government and policymakers. Costs associated with weak official policies and actions that add to the cost of doing business have regularly featured in periodical reports of other donor agencies like the ADB and IMF, the United Nations and its organs, Japan External Trade Organization (Jetro) as well as reputed local and regional thinktanks. Government and policymakers should keep themselves informed about findings and recommendations of these reports and take steps to bring improvements in the country's business environment.

The newly-elected US Administration and Britain's exit (Brexit) from the EU are sure to send ripple effects of their actions throughout the world. Bangladesh would need to craftily negotiate with the US and the UK to forestall any unwelcome repercussions of their actions on Bangladesh's trade and investment.

Bangladesh economy has come a long way, and now needs to ensure a growth agenda centered on sustainable and inclusive growth. Both public and private sectors need to work in partnership to address infrastructure gaps, investments in transport, river management and other infrastructures. To strengthen competitiveness and ease of doing business, reforms in a variety of government regulations would be required. The country probably has all the tools available at its disposal to rapidly climb up the rung of the development ladder, but only when it would successfully solve the country's most basic, long-standing problems, will it be able to become a leading economy in the future.

# **ARTICLE**

# TARGETING THE RIGHT CUSTOMERS TO GET OPTIMAL RESULTS

By Eve Chen

You want to achieve greater revenues for your business by building on better value propositions, increasing customer spend, cross-selling, shortening the buying cycle, leveraging customer loyalty, and increasing your overall market share. Great goals! But how do you exactly plan to achieve them? A very good place to start with is to get to know your customers well. This article aims to present you with some insights on how you should go about to target the right customers!

Market Segmentation is the discipline that enables companies to identify revenue opportunities through knowledge of, among others, customer buying behavior, interests, and geodemographic characteristics. It usually involves classifying customers into groups based on their unique quality, common needs, and how they respond to different marketing approaches. Ultimately market segmentation is about matching right products to the right people; the better you are at doing this, the more effective you can covert sales!

So how do I segment my customers I hear you ask! The first step you will need to decide what information you should be collecting on your potential customers. Picking the most relevant customer profiling methods is critical so that useful customer data can be collected and profiles can be formed for effective targeting.

# **CUSTOMER PROFILING TECHNIQUES**



Following are some profiling methods that will allow you to see your customers from different perspectives.

**Geo-demographic profiling.** Data collected through this technique

typically include the customers' age, income, gender, marital status, education level, and location. This method generally works for categories that are broadly targeted.

Transaction-based profiling. This technique involves tracking the customer's past purchasing behavior to predict future purchasing behavior. Amazon is known for successfully leveraging this profiling method to offer products to customers who are very likely to buy them—because they have bought similar or related products in the past.

Contextual targeting. If you're on Google's network, you really don't need to worry about this. "Contextual targeting technology enables marketers to find consumers based on where they are interacting with related content." With this method, ads are presented only on pages with relevant content—as if you know what your customers are reading.

**Behavioral targeting.** In this method, customers are targeted based on their interests or needs, as exhibited by their browsing behavior. Ads are displayed based on what a customer has searched for in the past.

Look-alikes. This method is relatively new and has arisen partly because of the proliferation of social media, blogs, and online products and service providers. The social profile (what articles or pages do they usually "like" or recommend?)

and browsing history of customers that end up buying a particular product are analyzed to identify "look-alikes" or the type of customers the brand is likely to have.

You can take advantage of all of the above techniques or pick just a few relevant ones based on your purpose and the type of business you are in. The more important question is how you make sense of the information that you gather to achieve your larger business qoals.

# **TYPES OF SEGMENTATION**

Now that you have collected sufficient data about your existing and prospective customers, what do you do next? How do you know which sets of data are relevant for which purpose? Or do you always have to rely on information that you actively take in from various sources? It's important that you know the different approaches to segmenting before you make your judgment about these concerns.

A priori segmentation. As its name suggests, a priori segmentation relies customer information known beforehand and "not based on any empirical research specific to the segments being created." Segments are created using pre-established classifications, e.g., Value, Attitudes & Lifestyles (VALS) Framework, developed by social scientist and consumer futurist Arnold Mitchell. This segmentation method could provide more immediate results and be less expensive than other approaches that require extensive research. However, it poses some risks to the business utilizing the prepared data due to the volatility of market segments. In today's age of digital technology, everything is changing very quicklyincluding how customers receive,

consume, and respond to information they are bombarded with everyday. Segmentation is supposed to help businesses reach their target audience in the most effective and powerful way possible. Outdated information could be well in the way.

Post hoc segmentation. This approach is also called cluster analysis. It "based on empirical research conducted specifically for outlining market segments." Because it is based on research, and one especially carried out to establish relevant segments, post hoc segmentation could be relied on for more accurate data. No pre-existing information is used in this method. Any and all attempts at segmentation will begin only after actual data is obtained. Consequently the risk here is spending a large portion of the marketing budget on research and ending up with nonactionable results.

Benefits-based segmentation. In this approach, the specific benefits of a product that appeal most to customers aiven greatest importance. Segments are created based on thatcustomers that focus on different benefits of a given product are treated differently. Consider this case: a product is both great-tasting and nutritious. From these two benefits, at least two groups of customers will emergethose who are happy with a greattasting snack and those who are critical about nutritional value in the food they eat. Marketing campaigns targeted at these two segments have different selling points in their message. Some concern may arise, though, on trying to market the product as both great tasting and healthy. Thankfully there are visual segmentation technologies out there that help marketers effectively develop campaigns targeting people with multiple attributes, and all done in a few clicks within your marketing automation or CRM tools.

#### PREDICTIVE MODELING



Market segmentation is a great way to get to know your customers and inform your marketing strategies. In fact, most companies rely solely on segmentation for identifying customers for their campaigns. However, segmentation combined with another method of gaining insight into customer needs and behavior will bring the greatest results for the company.

Predictive modeling is "the practice of forecasting future customer behaviors and propensities and assigning a score or ranking to each customer that depicts their anticipated actions." Similar to segmentation, it leverages information collected about customer behavior to identify characteristics that will likely lead to specific goals.

There is no ideal number of predictive models that a company should strive to achieve. This will be determined by, as in segmentation, the business goals and capability of the company to act on these goals and models. It will boil down to "the number of different profitdriving behaviors a company believes it can influence with customer datadriven campaigns." And the higher this number goes, the more challenging, as it is rewarding, for a company to execute specialized campaigns aimed at a highly targeted audience, because every predictive model is normally dedicated to a single behavior.

Common applications of predictive modeling include identifying specific customer targets for campaigns, forecasting customer behaviors, optimizing ROI, and assessing impact of marketing various components on customer behavior. Predictive modeling is very useful in identifying the target

audience for highly specialized campaigns. This is done by rating each customer based on how likely they are to react to a given program.

Predictive modeling allows marketers to forecast customer behavior, such as customer loyalty, tendency to purchase, and expected customer spends. It also enables marketers to gain insight into the lifetime customer value of each customer. Through this you can identify your top value customer groups.

As companies always aim at optimizing revenue performance, predictive models are an essential element in leveraging primary market levers like pricing and value proposition. For example, in determining the optimal offer for each customer, analysis of the price elasticity curves of different segments is crucial. Such insight from predicting modeling is highly valuable in business planning tied to revenue goals.

Predictive modeling enables companies to evaluate the impact of individual marketing efforts on customer behavior. This is significant because with the heap of information and stimuli that compete for the customers' attention and allegiance, so to speak, it is difficult to accurately measure the effectiveness of specific marketing initiatives. And failure to do so would keep companies in the dark as to which activities to continue because they are effective; and discontinue, because they are a waste of time and money.

#### **BOTTOMLINE**

Getting to really know your customers entails being clear on your business goals, having genuine interest in understanding your customers and providing them with the best product and service according to their needs, practicing intelligent planning, leveraging technology to achieve results, and keeping a strategic mind that sees the big picture of the entire buyers' journey.

Source: https://www.linkedin.com

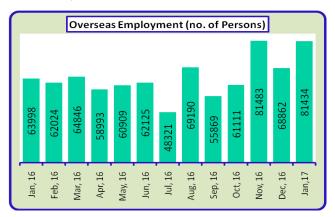
# **NATIONAL NEWS**

# Tk 2.43 BILLION EXPORT ORDERS RECEIVED AT DITF2017

Tk. 2.43 billion export orders were received at The Dhaka International Trade Fair (DITF) 2017 that ended on 4 February 2017. Electronics and home appliances, jute and jute goods, food items, handloom and handicrafts etc. were among the major products that received the export orders. A total of 580 stalls and pavilions were set up at the fair, which was organized by Export Promotion Bureau (EPB).

# **OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT JUMPS 24.13%**

A total of 466270 Bangladeshis got foreign jobs during July-January 2016-17 compared to 375640 during July-January 2015-16, showing a rise of 90630 employees or 24.13 percent, according to the Bureau of Manpower Employment and Training (BMET). During July-January 2016-17, a total of 128906 documented workers went to Saudi Arabia, 96551 to Oman, 62059 to Qatar, 50145 to Bahrain, 33330 to Kuwait, 27936 to Singapore, 15049 to Malaysia, 12047 to Jordan, 8262 to Lebanon, 4304 to United Arab Emirates, 3861 to Brunei, 2417 to Mauritius, 656 to South Korea and 20747 to other countries.



Source: BMET

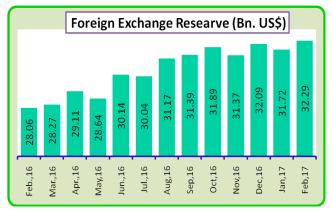
# \$100 MILLION ADB LOAN FOR SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) would provide US\$100 million loan to the government for improving skills of the young workforce, especially women, to enhance the country's employment and economic growth. The loan is the second tranche of the \$350 million multi-tranche financing facility (MFF) approved by the ADB in 2014 for the Skills for Employment Investment Programme (SEIP). The tranche-II of the SEIP will support expansion of the training program to nine priority industries, bringing in three additional industry associations (Bangladesh Agro-processors' Association, Industry Skills Council for Hospitality and Tourism, and Bangladesh Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry), and

15 training providers. The tranche-II of the ADB loan will have a 25-year term, including a grace period of five years, and an interest rate of 2.0 per cent per annum.

# **FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVE HITS US\$32.29 BILLION**

The country's foreign currency reserves at the Bangladesh Bank increased by \$4.23 billion or 15.07 percent to \$32.29 billion on 22 February 2017 from \$28.06 billion in February 2016.



Source: Bangladesh Bank

# **CABINET APPROVES \$10 BILLION SOVEREIGN FUND**

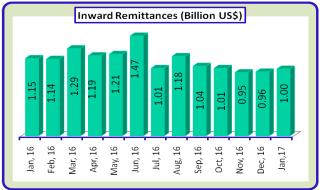
The government has approved a proposal for launching a Bangladesh Sovereign Wealth Fund of \$10 billion, with a view to making the fund useful during periods of emergency. The approval was given in the regular cabinet meeting with the Prime Minister in chair. The authorized capital will be \$10 billion and its primary capital will be \$2 billion. Every year the fund will add \$2 billion from the country's foreign exchange reserves. According to the proposal, it is expected that the sovereign wealth fund will hit the bond market on July 1, if everything goes as planned. The bonds will be traded in the Bangladesh Bank 's auctions under the existing legal framework of the bond market.

# Tk 330 MILLION CASH INCENTIVES FOR RICE, VEGETABLE CULTIVATION

The government will provide Tk 330 million cash incentives to more than 0.2 million farmers for the cultivation of Ufshi Aus, vegetables, and sugarcane in the fiscal year (FY) 2017-18. Under the financial package, Tk 280 million will be provided to the farmers in 51 districts for increased production of Ufshi Aus, while Tk 39 million in 40 districts for Nerika Aus in the current fiscal year. Besides, cash incentives will be disbursed and provided to the farmers for controlling insects that are harmful for pumpkin production in 64 districts.

# REMITTANCE INFLOW REACHED US\$7.18 BILLION DURING JULY- JANUARY 2016-17

The inward remittances received from Bangladeshi nationals working abroad reached US\$7.18 billion during July-January 2016-17, according to Bangladesh Bank. However, the remittance fell by \$1.46 billion or 16.90 percent from \$8.64 billion received during July-January 2015-16. During July-January 2016-17, \$1318.66 million remittance were received from Saudi Arabia, \$1175.63 million from the United Arab Emirates, \$942.79 million from U.S.A., \$672.66 million from Malaysia, \$588.96 million from Kuwait, \$500.65 million from Oman, \$396.22 million from U.K., \$317.51 million from Qatar, \$272.67 million from Italy, \$220.16 million from Bahrain, \$184.98 million from Singapore and \$585.40 million from other countries.



Source: Bangladesh Bank

# BB SIGNS DEALS WITH 10 MORE BANKS FOR GREEN TRANSFORMATION FUND

Bangladesh Bank signed separate agreements with 10 more private banks to facilitate fund for a long-term financing under the 'Green Transformation Fund for Export-oriented Textile and Textile Products and Leather Manufacturing Industries'. Under the deals, the ten banks - Al-Arafah Islami Bank, Bank Asia, Exim Bank, Modhumoti Bank, Mutual Trust Bank, NCC Bank, NRB Bank, Dhaka Bank, South Bangla Agriculture and Commerce Bank and Trust Bank would provide the long-term financing for transforming the export-oriented industries into green industries. The central bank earlier signed similar agreements with six other banks. The banks include Eastern Bank, Jamuna Bank, Mercantile Bank, Prime Bank, Shahjalal Islami Bank and South East Bank.

# **USED CAR IMPORT SOARS 15% IN THE FIRST HALF**

The import of reconditioned cars increased by around 15 per cent in the first six months (July-December 2016) of the current fiscal year (FY) 2016-17, over the corresponding period of the previous fiscal. Some 7,455 reconditioned cars were imported in July-December 2016 period, compared to 6,510 in the same

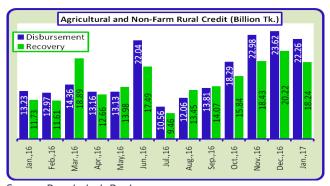
period of the previous fiscal, according to the Bangladesh Reconditioned Vehicles Importers & Dealers Association (BARVIDA). In the FY 2015-16, the reconditioned car import witnessed around 11.6 per cent growth with import of around 19,000 such vehicles.

#### 2.7 MILLION E-TIN HOLDERS IN THE COUNTRY

The number of total e-TIN (electronic Tax Identification Number) holders in the country stood at 2.7 million, according to the National Board of Revenue (NBR). The number is expected to increase to 3.0 million in fiscal year 2016-17 as NBR is issuing 6 to 7 thousand new e-TINs everyday on an average.

# AGRICULTURAL CREDIT DISBURSEMENT RISES BY 20.63%

Agricultural credit (including non-farm rural credit) disbursed by banks during July-January 2016-17 amounted to a provisional Tk.121.58 billion as compared to Tk.100.79 billion during July-January 2015-16, showing a rise of Tk.20.79 billion or 20.63 percent. The credit disbursement achieved 69.28 percent of total target (Tk.175.50 billion) set for 2016-17. Agricultural credit disbursed by banks in January 2017 increased by Tk.9.03 billion or 68.25 percent to Tk.22.26 billion from Tk.13.23 billion in January 2016. Meanwhile, total recovery of agricultural loan during July- January 2016-17 rose by Tk.12.21 billion or 12.73 percent to Tk.108.15 billion from Tk.95.94 billion during July-January 2015-16. Agricultural credit recovery by banks in January 2017 also rose by Tk.6.51 billion or 55.50 percent to Tk.18.24 billion from Tk.11.73 billion in January 2016.



Source: Bangladesh Bank

# 1.0MW WIND POWER PLANT OPENS AT KUTUBDIA

A 1.0mw wind power plant was inaugurated in Kutubdia island of Cox's Bazar. The plant was set up with 20 turbines, each having 50-kilowatt production capacity. With this wind-power unit, the total number of such green power plants stands at three. A similar-capacity plant was earlier set up on this bay island which has been generating electricity for the last few years. The other one is situated on Mahurir Char island of Feni district.

# BB ASKS BANKS TO INFORM CLIENTS BEFORE RAISING LENDING RATE

Bangladesh Bank recently asked all scheduled banks to inform clients before increasing lending rate on their term loans that come with variable rates. The banks have been asked to provide repayment schedule to the clients as well as a notice before changing the lending rate. They have also been instructed to mention it in the loan agreement. If any client wants to pay off the entire loan amount within a month due to the rise in lending rate, he/she can do so without being charged the early settlement fee. In case of late payment, the fee should not exceed 2 percent plus the lending rate. Banks have also been advised not to take blank cheques as security against any loan due to the rise in forgeries.

# **BIDA GETS TK 688 BILLION INVESTMENT PROPOSALS**

An aggregate of Tk 687.67 billion worth of investment proposals were registered with the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) during the second quarter (October-December 2016) of the current fiscal year 2016-17. The investment proposals made by some 487 local and foreign entrepreneurs were 36.84 per cent or Tk 185.16 billion higher than that of the first quarter of the same fiscal year, according to the BIDA. In the first quarter (July-September 2016), a total of 305 local and foreign entrepreneurs made investment proposals to the tune of Tk 502.51 billion, the BIDA figures revealed.

# 120.728 MILLION ACTIVE MOBILE PHONE USERS IN THE COUNTRY

The number of active mobile phone users in the country reached 120.728 million at the end of October, 2016, according to the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC). Of the mobile operators, Grameenphone had 55.736 million subscribers, while Banglalink had 29.980 million, Robi 24.427 million, Airtel 7.725 million and Teletalk 2.860 million at the end of month.

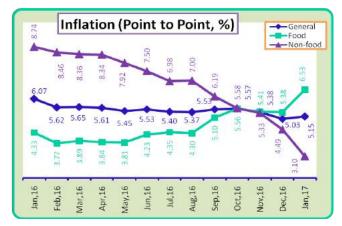
(Figures in million)

Operators	Subscribers in September, 2016	Subscribers in October, 2016	Increase(+), decrease(-)
Grameenphone	55.015	55.736	+0.721
Banglalink	29.471	29.980	+0.509
Robi	23.834	24.427	+0.593
Airtel	7.778	7.725	-0.053
Teletalk	2.989	2.860	-0.129
Total	119.087	120.728	+1.641

Source: BTRC

#### **INFLATION FALLS TO 5.15% IN JANUARY 2017**

The country's general inflation on point-to-point basis (as per the base year 2005-06 =100) fell by 0.92 percentage points to 5.15 percent in January 2017 from 6.07 percent in January 2016, according to Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS). The food inflation increased by 2.20 percentage points to 6.53 percent in January 2017 compared to 4.33 percent in January 2016, while the non-food inflation fell by 5.64 percentage points to 3.10 percent in January 2017 compared to 8.74 percent in January 2016.



Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

#### **SMARTPHONE IMPORTS SOAR 46%**

Imports of Smartphone through legal channel shot up by 45.72 percent to 8.2 million units in 2016 from 5.62 million units a year earlier, driven by the expansion of 3G services in Bangladesh, according to the Bangladesh Mobile Phone Importers Association (BMPIA). Total value of Smartphone imports was Tk 65 billion in 2016. Smartphone is expected to account for 60 percent of the total mobile imports in 2017 and 80 percent in 2018.

# BANGLADESH CONNECTS TO SECOND SUBMARINE CABLE

Bangladesh has been connected to the second submarine cable at Kuakata Submarine Cable Landing Station. With this, the country will get an additional bandwidth of more than 1,500 GB, according to Bangladesh Submarine Cable Company Limited (BSCCL). The test transmission has started but it will be available commercially once the transmission link from Dhaka to Kuakata landing station is completed. Seventeen countries of South Asia, South-East Asia, Africa and Europe are getting connected to SEA-ME-WE-5(South East Asia-Middle East-Western Europe 5) under one consortium. Bangladesh signed the agreement with SEA-ME-WE-5 consortium to lay the second link in 2011.

# CORPORATE NEWS



Grameenphone Limited reported that it enjoyed a 'solid year' in 2016 with 9.6 per cent revenue growth and inclusion of 8.8 million new internet users. It posted Tk 22.5 billion net profit after taxes in the year. The company's data revenue grew 69.7 per cent with 56.1 per cent growth in user and 167.9 per cent in volume. The number of its subscribers grew 2.2 per cent during the year. The board of directors of the company recommended 90 percent final cash dividend for its shareholders for the year ended on December 31 2016. The company also reported Earnings per share (EPS) of Tk 16.68, Net Asset Value (NAV) per share of Tk 24.86 and Net operating cash flow per share (NOCFPS) of Tk 34.18 for the year ended on December 31, 2016 as against Tk 14.59, Tk 22.68 and Tk 28.73 respectively for the same period of the previous year.



The board of directors of First Security Islami Bank Limited decided to issue fully redeemable non-convertible subordinated bond of Tk 4.50 billion through private placement with 7 years maturity. The bond issue is subject to approval from the regulatory authorities—Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) and Bangladesh Bank (BB) for enhancement of Tier-II Capital as per requirement of Basel-III and business expansion of the bank. The paid-up capital of the bank, listed on the Dhaka Stock Exchange in 2008, is Tk. 6788.74 million and authorized capital is Tk. 10000 million, while total number of share is 678,873,888. The sponsor—directors own 48 percent stake in the bank, while institutional investors own 17.81 percent, foreign investors 3.60 percent and the general public 30.58 percent as on January 31, 2017.

# SINGER AT HOME WORLDWIDE

Singer Bangladesh Limited achieved record high revenue growth of 30.3% to Tk. Tk 9.00 billion in 2016 compared to a year ago. The company made after tax profit of Tk546.30 million, showing an increase of 48.2% from the previous year. Gross profit rose by 40.7% in 2016 with gross profit margins rising to 28.8 percent from 26.7 percent a year ago. Its earnings per share rose to Tk 7.1. It made a gain on revaluation of property, plant and equipment amounting to Tk171.90 million. The company also announced 70% cash dividend maintaining its long history of robust dividend payments.



The board of directors of LankaBangla Finance Limited recommended 15 per cent cash and 15 per cent stock dividend for the year ended on December 31, 2016. The leading non-bank financial institution also reported consolidated earnings per share (EPS) of Tk 2.87, consolidated net asset value (NAV) per share of Tk 24.16 and consolidated net operating cash flow per share (NOCFPS) of Tk 9.02 for the year ended on December 31, 2016 as against Tk 1.53 (restated), Tk 22.63 (restated) and Tk 10.72 (restated) respectively for the same period of the previous year. The company's paid-up capital is Tk 2.67 billion and authorized capital is Tk 3.0 billion, while the total number of securities is 276.74 million. The sponsor-directors own 34.83 per cent stake in LankaBangla, while institutional investors own 31.81 per cent, foreign investors 3.76 per cent and the general public 29.60 per cent as on January 31, 2017.



Green Delta Insurance Company Limited reported net profit after tax of Tk.248.58 million for the year 2016 compared to Tk.230.29 million for 2015. The company reported earnings per share (EPS) of Tk 3.08, net asset value (NAV) per share of Tk 69.93 and net operating cash flow per share (NOCFPS) of Tk (0.16) for the year ended on December 31, 2016 as against Tk 2.85 Tk 70.54 and Tk 0.46 respectively for the same period of the previous year. The board of directors of the company recently recommended 20 per cent cash dividend for the year ended on December 31, 2016.



IDLC Finance Limited reported net profit after tax of Tk 1780.30 million in the year 2016, recording a strong 22% growth from Tk. 1459.22 million of previous year. Operating income for the year also increased by 13% year on year and stood at Tk 5,167million. Earnings per Share (EPS) grew to Tk 7.08 from Tk 5.81 in the previous year, while net asset value (NAV) per share increased to tk. 35.56 from tk. 30.97. The Non-Performing Loans (NPL) of the company reduced to 2.98% at the end of 2016, compared to 3.06% in the previous year. The board of directors of the company proposed 30% cash dividend for the year amid strong financial performance.



#### In Search of Excellence

Orion Pharma Limited recently signed a deal with BHF-Bank, Germany's leading private lender, to borrow over \$34 million to partially finance the purchase of a new plant and machinery to expand its existing production capacity to produce biotechnology, hormone and anti-cancer products. The interest rate for the loan will be LIBOR plus 2.15 percent. The German lender has given Orion five years time to repay the loan, excluding two years of grace period.



All existing five directors of Central Pharmaceuticals Limited will sell their entire holdings to Alif Group through block market. In this regard, the board of directors of Central Pharmaceuticals decided to sign a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Alif Group. The principal activities of the company is manufacturing and marketing of medicine. The company produces and markets finished formulation products for general hospitals, clinics, government organizations, NGOs, corporations and other organizations. It may be mentioned that the company, listed on the bourse in August, 2013, was actually established by GETCO/ Bangla CAT (represents the world famous USA-based Caterpillar company) in 1980s. Afterwards METRO GROUP purchased the company at the end of 1993 and started its operation from the beginning of 1994. Some years later METRO GROUP decided to sell the company and the existing managing director purchased Central Pharmaceuticals Ltd. form METRO GROUP.



# একসাথে তৈরি হচ্ছে ১ নম্বর নেটওয়ার্ক

The country's second largest mobile operator Robi Axiata Limited registered 5% revenue growth in the fourth quarter of 2016 after completion of merger with Airtel Bangladesh Limited. Revenue amounted to Tk 14.6 billion. However, earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) margin is lower by 19.5 percentage point mainly for one-off merger related fees and charges. Robi's profitability was negative impacted by accelerated depreciation resulting from nationwide network modernization especially in Chittagong-Comilla region. Robi's subscriber base stands at 33.8 million (after the merger), representing 26.9% (estimated) of industry subscriber market share.



The board of directors of IPDC Finance Limited recommended 20 per cent stock dividend for the year ended on December 31, 2016. The non-bank financial intuition also reported earnings per share (EPS) of Tk 2.00, net asset value (NAV) per share of Tk 18.32 and net operating cash flow per share (NOCFPS) of Tk 7.48 for the year ended on December 31, 2016 as against Tk 1.59 (restated), Tk 16.33 (restated) and Tk 2.13 (restated) respectively for the same period of the previous year. The paidup capital of the company, listed on the bourses in 2006, is Tk 1.51 billion and authorized capital is Tk 4.0 billion, while the total number of securities is 151,500,567. The sponsor-directors own 51.05 per cent stake in IPDC, while the government owns 21.88 per cent, institutional investors 10.98 per cent, foreign investors 3.17 per cent and the general public 12.92 per cent as on January 31, 2017.



The board of directors of Social Islami Bank Limited recently recommended 20% cash dividend for the year 2016. The bank's earnings per share (EPS) grew to Tk 3.10 in 2016 from Tk2.77 in the previous year and net asset value (NAV) per share increased to Tk.19.22 from Tk.18.42 while net operating cash flow per share (NOCFPS) amounted to Tk.1.02 compared to Tk.6.59 in the previous year.



The country's leading shipbuilder Western Marine Shipyard Limited recently handed over a sea-going harbor tug boat to Chittagong Port Authority. The tug boat, named Kandari-12, is 25.20 meter-long with a capacity of 25 tonne BP. The boat was built at a cost of Tk. 170 million under the supervision of the international classification society CLASS NK Japan with the main engine and machinery from Japan and European countries.



The board of directors of Dutch-Bangla Bank Limited (DBBL) recommended 30 per cent cash dividend for its shareholders for the year ended on December 31, 2016. The bank also reported EPS of Tk 8.81, NAV per share of Tk 88.30 and NOCFPS of Tk 24.57 for the same year as against Tk 15.10, Tk 83.77 and Tk 29.50 respectively for the same period of the previous year.

# **INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

# PAKISTAN: REMITTANCES STOOD AT \$9.458 BILLION IN SIX MONTHS

Remittances received from Pakistanis working abroad amounted to \$9.458 billion in first six months (July-December 2016) of FY17, compared with \$9.688 billion received during the same period in the preceding year, according to the State Bank of Pakistan. During December 2016, the inflow of worker's remittances amounted to \$1,584.17 million compared to \$1616.13 million received in December 2015.

(Figures in US\$ million)

	, ,	
Remittance sources	Remittances November 2015	Remittances November 2016
Saudi Arabia	501.99	475.75
UAE	339.53	339.93
USA	208.05	182.17
UK	190.57	181.85
GCC countries*	209.5	203.63
EU	35.25	35.08
Others	131.24	165.76
Total	1616.13	1584.17

<sup>\*</sup>Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman

# JAPAN: 1% GROWTH IN 2016 ON EXPORTS, CAPITAL INVESTMENT

Japan's economy expanded 1.0 percent in 2016 as a bump in exports and capital investment offset weak spending at home, although it was unlikely to erase concerns about Japan's faltering war on deflation. The gross domestic product (GDP) data showed four consecutive quarters of growth -- the longest expansion since 2013 -- but the annual figure was lower than the 1.2 percent growth registered in 2015, according to Japan's Cabinet Office. Government spending measures and a drop in the yen were key growth drivers, even as Japanese consumers kept a tight

lid on spending. Private spending, which accounts for more than a half of Japan's GDP, declined as the weaker yen boosts the cost of imports, which threatens to put a further squeeze on spending.

# SINGAPORE: EXTERNAL TRADE RISES BY 8.6%

Singapore's non-oil domestic exports (NODX), a key gauge of the export performance of the highly open economy, rose 8.6 per cent in January 2017 on a year-on-year basis, according to the International Enterprise (IE) Singapore. The growth was due to the increase in both electronic and non-electronic NODX. The trade promotion agency said that electronic NODX expanded by 6.1 per cent in January year-on-year, following the 5.7 per cent increase in the previous month. ICs, parts of PCs and disk drives contributed the most to the growth posting 31.6 per cent, 11.0 per cent and 2.9 per cent increase respectively. Nonelectronic NODX gained 9.9 per cent in January 2017 year-on-year, following the 10.7 per cent increase in the previous month which was led by specialized machinery, petrochemicals and nonmonetary gold.

# MEXICO: REMITTANCES HIT RECORD IN 2016

The amount of money sent home by Mexican migrants living abroad rose to a record high in 2016, driven by a slump in the peso as well as concerns that U.S. President Donald Trump could block transfers to pay for his planned border wall. Remittances to Mexico totaled \$26.97 billion in 2016, up nearly 9 percent over 2015, and the highest ever according to Mexican central bank figures that go back to 1995. Remittances rose by 6.2 percent in December compared with the same month a year earlier to more than \$2.3 billion. Most of that came from the United States.

# UK: SPENDING LESS ON ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO

Families in the UK are becoming more clean-living, with less money being spent on cigarettes and alcohol, but more being spent on going out to restaurants, according to the Family Spending Survey from the Office for National Statistics (ONS). Spending on alcohol and cigarettes continued to fall over the period, to £11.40 a week. At the start of the 2000s, families were typically spending nearly £20 a week on such items. Meanwhile, households spent £45 a week on going out to restaurants, cafes and hotels--the first time that figure has been reached in five years. Transport and housing remain the most expensive items in the household budget. Families spent an average of £72.70, or 14% of their budgets, on transport. The next biggest expense was housing. Excluding mortgages and council tax, an average of £72.50 a week was spent on homes that included rent, heating, water and maintenance charges.

# SAUDI ARABIA: INTERNAL TRANSFER OF SERVICES OF DOMESTIC WORKERS ALLOWED

The Saudi government has approved a set of new rules of transferring services of domestic workers and their dependents from one employer to another under 13 circumstances. Labor and Social Development Minister of Saudi Arabia has recently given his approval to those rules. The new measure is aimed at regulating the employment market and providing opportunities for household workers, including drivers and maid servants, as well as their dependents to find jobs in the event of certain situations for which they are not responsible. These include, among others, delay on the part of the employer in the payment of wages for three months, failure to receive domestic help upon their arrival

in the Kingdom, failure to take them from shelters by 15 days after their arrival in the Kingdom, delay of more than 30 days in the issuance or renewal of residency permit (igama), renting out the service of the domestic worker to another employer without the knowledge of the worker. According to the minister's directive, a domestic worker's service can also be transferred to another employer in the event of mistreatment of the worker by the employer or his family members. The new employer has to pay the fee for transfer of services in addition to the expense for hosting the worker at the shelter home with SR150 for each day.

# USA: TRADE DEFICIT IN 2016 WAS THE BIGGEST IN FOUR YEARS

The U.S. trade deficit widened in 2016 to the biggest since 2012 as exports fell more than imports. For all of 2016, the deficit increased by 0.4 percent to \$502.3 billion, including a wider annual gap with Mexico and a smaller one with China, US Commerce Department figures showed. However, the U.S. trade deficit narrowed slightly in December 2016, but the improvement wasn't enough to keep the deficit for the entire year from rising to the highest level since 2012. The deficit in December fell 3.2 percent to \$44.2 billion.

# AZERBAIJAN: FUTURE GAS SUPPLIER TO EUROPE, FACES SHORTFALL AT HOME

Azerbaijan is on track to send gas to western Europe by the end of the decade, but is having to import supplies to use at home, compounding economic hardship that prompted protests last year. The country contains one of the world's biggest gas fields, Shah Deniz on the Caspian Sea, but it has presold the next stage of output, due by 2020, to Greece, Italy, Turkey and other states keen to reduce their dependence on Russian gas. At the end of last year, as construction of

the pipeline to deliver the gas passed the halfway mark, Azerbaijan's state energy company SOCAR said it had begun importing gas from Iran.

# NIGERIA: RETURNS TO DEBT MARKETS WITH \$1 BILLION BOND

Nigeria has successfully gone to the bond markets in an effort to get infrastructure investment back on track as a rising oil price and government promises on reform have improved sentiment. Investor interest in the west African nation's \$1billion bond with a coupon of 7.875 per cent proved higher than anticipated and it was almost eighttimes subscribed. Almost a full year of effort to tap international markets had come up short with the country falling in to recession last year for the first time since 1991, as the crash in oil prices hammered Africa's top exporter. The government has said that it wants to borrow heavily to haul the country back to recovery. It plans to use the bond issue announced recently to finance its budget deficit and implement planned spending on infrastructure.

# SMARTPHONES: NEARLY 1.5 BILLION UNITS SOLD IN 2016

Smartphone sales in 2016 totaled nearly 1.5 billion, up around 5 percent from the year before, according to Gartner. In terms of vendors, Samsung reigned supreme. The company shipped 306.4 million smartphones, giving it 20.5 percent of the market. Apple shipped 216.06 million smartphones for 14.4 percent of the market. Samsung's share is down 2 percent year-over-year, while. Apple saw its share fall from 15.9 percent to 14.4 percent. Samsung and Apple both lost market share to up and coming Chinese manufacturers such as Huawei and Oppo, both of which saw an increase in their share year-over-year. This is a trend that has taking shape for several recent quarters.

# AMBASSADOR: PEUGEOT BUYS INDIA'S CAR BRAND FOR \$12 MILLION

India's Hindustan Motors has sold its Ambassador car brand to France's Peugeot for just US\$12 million, capping a spectacular downfall for a vehicle once emblematic of the country's political class. CK Birla Group (CBG), the owners of Hindustan Motors, have sold the car brand to the French automakers for INR800 million. Hindustan Motors, India's oldest carmaker, stopped production of the Ambassador in 2014 while citing debt and lack of demand for the vehicle, which was modeled on Britain's long-defunct Morris Oxford.

# CREDIT SUISSE: UP TO 6,500 JOB CUTS PLANNED

Credit Suisse plans to cut up to 6,500 jobs after suffering a loss of 2.4 billion Swiss francs (\$2.4 billion) in 2016. The Zurich-based lender said the bulk of the loss resulted from a \$2 billion provision it made for a settlement with the U.S. Department of Justice, which announced in January that Credit Suisse would pay a total of \$5.3 billion to settle claims that it packaged and sold toxic mortgages between 2005 and 2007. Credit Suisse also shed more than 7,250 jobs over the course of last year.

#### **NOKIA: 3310 IS BACK**

The Nokia 3310 phone is back. The iconic, indestructible phone has been redesigned 17 years after it first launched in 2000. The new phone has been developed by HMD, which acquired a tenyear license to use Nokia's brand name in May 2016. The new handset is noticeably slimmer than the original Nokia 3310, which sold around 126 million units before it was discontinued in 2005. It is also almost half the weight – the original was 133g, the new one is only 79g.

# **SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

# FARM FROM A BOX TO PROMOTE COMMUNITY FARMING

The solar powered Farm from a Box makes it easy for communities to grow their own food, and even earn an income from the crops. Built from modified shipping containers, the Farm from a Box kits include a fully solar powered ecosystem, farm tools, a drip irrigation system, pump, and WiFi connectivity to monitor the plants. The solar panel will generate 3kW of energy—more than enough to power the system—and each unit can be tailored to meet the needs of the user and their environment. The Farm from a Box does require the user have viable land to grow the crops to maturity, with each unit supporting up to two acres of land.



There are a plethora of third-party keyboards that have been created for iPhone and iPad since Apple opened its mobile platform for keyboard support with iOS 8 in 2014. However, no keyboard that has been created thus far is quite like Keymochi. The Keymochi smart keyboard app can detect the user's mood by the way they type. The app was developed as a research project to offer a new way for humans and AI to communicate. The Keymochi will identify the user's mood based on criteria such as the typing speed, number of backspaces and key distance—as well as sentiment analysis—to deliver a mood analysis up to 82 percent accurate.

#### **POWERING DEVICES VIA TOUCHSCREENS**

A new technology from Penn State could have us powering our devices by using their touchscreens. The technology was specifically developed to overcome the limitations of the piezoelectric effect, which works best with high-frequency vibrations that are relatively uncommon in nature. To harness the much more common low-frequency movements—such as a finger on a touchpad—the Penn State team developed a new flexible ionic diode. The diode consists of two nanocomposite electrodes with oppositely charged ions located in a polymeric matrix that holds carbon nanotubes and ionic liquids. Applying pressure to the diode will cause the ions to diffuse and create a current.

# OCEANONE ROBOTIC DIVER BOASTS A GENTLE GRIP

Stanford University's new OceanOne humanoid robotic divers combine dexterity and hardiness to go where no human has gone before. The OceanOne features a humanoid torso, while the batteries, computer, and thrusters are housed in the "tail." The stereoscopic eyes offer the remote pilot an exact, real-time view of what the robot is seeing, but it is the robot's hands that make the new device so exciting to researchers. The OceanOne boasts a pair of fully articulated wrists embedded with force sensors that transmit haptic feedback to the pilot, allowing the human controller to identify the properties of the object the robot is holding. This delicate control is assisted by an onboard computer, while sensors in the robot control the thrust to keep it steady while underwater.









# **NEW PRODUCTS**

#### **GITA PERSONAL CARGO BOT**



The Gita cargo carrying invention follows its owner around like an autonomous wagon. The Gita balances nimbly on its pair of wheels to trail its owner while carrying up to 40 pounds of cargo at speeds as fast as 22 miles per hour. Navigation is accomplished via a camera-embedded belt worn by the user, and a software system called SLAM that generates a 3D map of the wearer's environment. With that information along with its own camera, the Gita is able to map its route behind the user, even if they are momentarily out of sight (such as around a corner).

# CALVARY BLUETOOTH MOTORCYCLE HELMET



Safety comes first, but it doesn't have to come at the expense of connectivity — and certainly not in our digital age. The Bluetooth-enabled Calvary half-helmet from Sena lets motorcyclists stay in touch via its onboard communications system. The Calvary helmet's integrated Bluetooth system includes a microphone for taking calls, as well as an intercom system that allows the wearer to share their music (or call) with a riding companion. The system can support up

to four connections simultaneously, with a battery life of up to ten hours, and can also communicate with a smartphone to offer music playback or GPS navigation.

#### JIOBIT BABY TRACKER



The Jiobit Bluetooth tracker lets parents keep an eye on their child, wherever they are. The Jiobit goes beyond standard trackers to cover more locations, relying on Bluetooth, WiFi, and cellular networks as well as GPS to track more consistently indoors. The sleek little tracker is sturdy and lightweight, designed to clip onto the child's clothing without interfering with their day, and will eventually learn the child's routine, triggering an alert if they veer from their usual locations.

# COOLCONTROL MATTRESS OFFERS DUAL CONTROL



You're always looking for the cool side of the pillow, and now, you can find the cool side of your mattress, too. While temperature-controlled mattresses are not new, the CoolControl is the first with dual controls that can be set to different preferences. The mattress's settings are controlled via an iOS app or wireless remote, and can be set to change during the night as desired. The dual-sided temperature CoolControl mattress from

WinkBeds lets couples sleep more comfortably.

# SMARTSTOP STOPS SMOKING WITH CONTROLLED DOSES



The smartphone-controlled SmartStop nicotine patch from Chrono Therapeutics helps stop nicotine craving by delivering precise doses during the day. The SmartStop differs from conventional nicotine patches in its delivery method, which triggers the dose during the wearer's peak craving times: in the morning, at lunch, and in the evening. The SmartStop system includes a liquid nicotine cartridge, Bluetooth chip, battery and motor, with the battery reported to last ten weeks—the amount of time it should take to eliminate nicotine dependency using the device.

#### SAFILO SMART GLASSES FOCUS ON STYLE



The luxury eyewear designers at Safilo have developed smart glasses that will read the wearer's mood, and look good in the process. The glasses are a slimmed-down version of Google Glass, with no display, camera or microphone. Rather, the glasses focus on tracking the wearer's mood via an array of embedded sensors.

#### **MIZUSION LED LAMP**



Salt water is all you need to power this Lamp for 80 hours. Hitachi Maxell's Mizusion lamp is equipped with a reservoir at the top that holds the salt water. A replaceable magnesium "power bar" interacts with the salt water and oxygen to produce the positive and negative electrons that generate the electricity. The lamp can provide up to 2000 lux of illumination, and can be used both indoors and out.

# **RAYBABY: CONTACT-FREE BABY MONITOR**



The Raybaby contact-free baby monitor can track sleeping and breathing without the need for a wearable device. The Raybaby monitor tracks the child's motions via ultra-wideband technology, which enables the system to detect very small chest movements as well as a potential fever. It can function from as far as eight feet away, determining the child's respiration rate with an accuracy of 98 percent, and any unusual breathing activity will trigger an alarm on the companion app. The Raybaby also tracks the child's sleep patterns, alerting the parent when they wake, and will collect images and videos of the child for sharing with friends and family.

#### THE E-STRAP



The E-Strap from Manufacture Modules Technologies promises to make any watch smart—or at least smarter. Based on the company's studies of hybrid smartwatches, the E-Strap is packed with sensors able to track health and fitness, such as steps taken, calories burnt, and inactivity alerts. The E-Strap also includes sleep monitoring (it can track sleep patterns even when placed under a pillow) and an option to set a smart sleep alarm. The E-Strap is said to fit on any watch and will be available in variety of leathers and finishes.

#### HAND-HELD FLU BREATHALYZER



The sooner that you know you've got the flu, the sooner you can stop spreading it and start treating it. That's the thinking behind a new device, a hand-held breath monitor able to detect the flu virus to help prevent flu epidemics. The device, which is similar to a breathalyzer for alcohol, was created by a team from the University of Texas, Arlington using three affordable semiconductor sensors. The sensors can detect the biomarkers for the flu from a single breath, offering a rapid and non-invasive way to test for the virus.

# **UNIQUE SUGAR DISPENSER**



It is the world's first and most beautiful sugar dispenser with a simple built-in measuring system. Its unique double bend, reinvented and timeless design makes sure that you get the same hygienic amount of sugar (one teaspoon) every time you use it! Made for coffee and tea lovers and gourmets worldwide, the revolutionary and iconic design was created with passion.

# NOMAD HEADSET GUIDES THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED



Designed for the visually impaired, the Nomad concept device would help the wearer navigate with LiDAR and connectivity. The Nomad headset is equipped with four LiDAR proximity sensors set atop a bone conducting set of headphones that allows the user to hear what is around them while receiving information. important navigation Navigation information is relayed to the wearer as privately audible dings that increase in speed as the obstacles come nearer. The Nomad could also integrate with the blindsquare, an app similar to Google Maps specifically designed for people with visual impairments. It also includes a virtual assistant similar to Google Home and Amazon Echo to make purchasing tickets and other services easier.

# MEMBER PROFILE



# A.K.KHAN & COMPANY LTD

Established at the end of the second world war, A.K. Khan & Company Ltd. has been a leading conglomerate in Bangladesh. From deep sea fishing to financial institutions, A.K. Khan & Company Ltd. has been the pioneer in many sectors of the Bangladeshi economy. As steps into the future, its commitment in assessing the industrial development of Bangladesh has taken a new dimension. It plans to continue our joint venture business model to bring foreign expertise, products & services in an effort to further development of Bangladesh economy.

A.K. Khan & Company Limited is one of the oldest and most renowned private sector organizations in Bangladesh; founded by Late Mr. Abul Kasem Khan, popularly known as A.K. Khan in 1945 after the Second World War in Chittagong, the foremost port city and business center of the country. This organization was registered as private limited company in 1951.

In the early 1950s, this group established insurance company, financial institution as well as manufacturing industries in textiles, jute, plywood, tannery, heavy electrical goods, shipping and irrigation. From 1980s the company started to grow through Joint Ventures (JV) with renowned multinational companies such as Coats Vieylla Group of UK and Toray Industries, Inc of Japan in Textile, Ceylinco of Sri Lanka in Telecommunication, International Finance Corporation (IFC) and Water Health International of USA in Community Based Water project and Maruha Nichiro Corporation and Mitsui & Company of Japan in Deep Sea Fishing.

This organization strives for business excellence through joint ventures to match the state of the art technologies

and R&D of its foreign partners coupled with the expertise and extensive industrial experience of the group to compete in the global economy. A.K. Khan & Company Ltd. always plays a significant role in the economic development of Bangladesh by value creation for its stakeholders, delivering quality products & services, providing employment opportunities and creating centers of excellence in industrial and service sectors through joint ventures. It became ninth highest tax payer of Bangladesh for the tax year 2011-2012.

Recently, the group has taken pioneering steps to provide logistic supports for industrial development of Bangladesh through the planned A.K.KHAN ECONOMIC ZONE (AKKEZ) in Danga, Palash, Narashingdi on almost 200 acres of land. To facilitate handling of containers and distribution facilities specially to export oriented industries located in and around Dhaka division, an Inland Container Terminal (ICT) is also included with the Economic Zone.

As per the will of Janab A.K. Khan, the company allocates 30% of its profit for social welfare through A.K. Khan Foundation. Focus activities include relief,



Mr. Salahuddin Kasem Khan Managing Director A.K. Khan & Company Ltd.

rehabilitate, and educate vulnerable people along with providing therapeutic services to people with disabilities.

Overall A.K. Khan & Company Limited is committed to serve Bangladesh to reach its goal of becoming a role model of sustainable development and help Bangladesh to become a "middle income country" by 2021.

# **Company Address**

# A. K. KHAN & COMPANY LIMITED

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Web: www.akkhan.com

# **COUNTRY PROFILE**



With 1.37 billion people, China is the world's largest country in terms of population. It is a vast country bounded by Russia, Mongolia, and North Korea on the north; Pakistan, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan on the west; India, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar, Laos, and Vietnam on the south; and the Pacific Ocean and its extensions on the east. As of 2014, China has the world's second-largest economy in terms of nominal GDP. Since economic liberalization began in 1978, China has been among the world's fastest-growing economies, relying largely on investment-and export-led growth. China is mainly characterized as having a market economy based on private property ownership, and is one of the leading examples of state capitalism. The state still dominates in strategic "pillar" sectors such as energy production and heavy industries, but private enterprise has expanded enormously, with around 30 million private businesses recorded in 2008. In 2014, Fortune's Global 500 list of the world's largest corporations included 95 Chinese companies, with combined revenues of US\$5.8 trillion. The same year, Forbes reported that five of the world's ten largest public companies were Chinese, including the world's largest bank by total assets, the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China.

# **AGRICULTURE**

Crops: rice, wheat, maize, millet, oat, sugar cane, sugar beets, soybeans, peanuts, sweet potatoes, white potatoes, citrus, rapeseed, fruits, vegetables, tea, cotton and jute.

#### **MINING**

mineral products: coal, oil, iron ore, graphite, salt, phosphate rock, bauxite, manganese, sulfur, zinc, copper, lead, antimony ore, tin, tungsten, and mercury.

# **INDUSTRY**

Steel, textile, shipbuilding, locomotives, tractors, mining machinery, powergenerating equipment, petroleum drilling and refining machinery, and

petrochemicals, cement, paper and paperboard, television sets, bicycles, sewing machines, washing machines, refrigerators, and motor vehicles.

#### **TRANSPORT**

**Roads:** In 2011 China's highways had reached a total length of 85,000 km, making it the longest highway system in the world. Private car ownership is growing rapidly in China, with total car sales of over 13.6 million.

**Railway:** China's railways, owned by the state, are the busiest in the world, handling a quarter of the world's cargo and passenger travel. As of 2013, the country had 103,144 km of railways, the third longest network in the world.

China intends to operate approximately 16,000 km of high-speed rail lines by 2020.

**Airways:** There were 182 commercial airports in China in 2012. As of 2013, more than two-thirds of airports under construction worldwide are in China.

# **FOREIGN TRADE**

**Exports:** \$2.011 trillion (2016)

**Major Export commodities:** electrical and other machinery, including data processing equipment, apparel, furniture, textiles, integrated circuits

**Major export destinations:** USA, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea

**Imports**: 1.437 trillion (2016)

**Major import commodities:** electrical and other machinery, oil and mineral fuels; nuclear reactor, boiler, and machinery components; optical and medical equipment, metal ores, motor vehicles; soybeans

Major import sources: South Korea, USA, Japan, Germany, Australia

# **IMPORT TARIFF IN THE CHINA MARKET (2014)**

		Applied Ities	Imports			
Product groups	AVG	Duty- free in %	Share in %	Duty- free in %		
Animal products	14.1	14.2	0.4	6.0		
Dairy products	12.1	0.0	0.3	0.0		
Fruit, vegetables, plants	14.6	5.4	0.5	1.5		
Coffee, tea	14.7	0.0	0.1	0.0		
Cereals & preparations	22.6	8.8	0.6	0.0		
Oilseeds, fats & oils	10.4	9.1	3.2	0.0		
Sugars and confectionery	28.7	0.0	0.1	0.0		
Beverages & tobacco	22.8	2.1	0.3	4.9		
Cotton	18.0	10.0	0.5	0.0		
Other agricultural products	11.2	8.5	0.7	2.3		
Fish & fish products	10.5	5.0	0.5	0.3		
Minerals & metals	7.2	9.5	20.8	50.6		
Petroleum	4.5	21.1	14.9	87.3		
Chemicals	6.5	1.5	11.0	0.7		
Wood, paper, etc.	4.3	36.2	2.6	86.0		
Textiles	9.5	0.0	1.4	0.0		
Clothing	16.0	0.0	0.3	0.0		
Leather, footwear, etc.	12.8	0.6	1.6	0.5		
Non-electrical machinery	7.8	9.6	8.6	36.3		
Electrical machinery	8.1	24.7	19.7	86.4		
Transport equipment	11.3	0.8	5.9	0.0		
Manufactures, n.e.s.	11.6	10.4	6.2	17.6		

Source: WTO

# **BANGLADESH-CHINA TRADE**

Two-way trade between the countries has shown a rising trend in recent years. Total trade amounted to \$10477.24 million in 2015-16 compared to \$9015.30 million in 2014-15 and \$8296.30 million in 2013-14, showing a rise of 16.22% in 2015-16 and 8.67% in 2014-15.



# **EXPORTS TO CHINA**

Bangladesh's exports to China have shown a rising trend in recent years. Exports rose 2.17% in 2015-16 and 6.00% in 2014-15. China accounted for 2.36% of total Bangladesh exports in 2015-16.

		(	(US\$ million)
Major export items	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14
Woven garments	197.78	163.14	142.08
Articles of composition leather, animal gut, harness, travel goods	144.79	140.90	158.45
Knitwear	143.44	141.80	99.29
Jute & jute goods (yarn of jute)	102.17	112.13	103.50
Raw hides and skins and leather	52.09	68.42	69.40
Fish, crustaceans, molluscs, aquatic invertebrates nes	34.68	12.22	44.04
Footwear	33.51	24.70	14.20
Home textiles	20.93	27.37	22.29
Plastics waste and scrap nes	20.90	30.60	28.54
Sesamum Seeds	8.97	22.95	21.09
Others	48.88	46.77	43.32
Total	808.14	791.00	746.20

Source: Export Promotion Bureau

# **IMPORTS FROM CHINA**

Bangladesh's imports from China have shown a rising trend in recent years. Imports rose 17.57% in 2015-16 and 8.93% in 2014-15. China shared 26.27% of Bangladesh total imports in 2015-16.

	1	(US	\$ million)
Major import items	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14
Cotton	1780.00	1609.40	1618.80
Machinery and mechanical appliances	1445.20	1346.50	1161.50
Electrical machinery and equipment	1292.80	1007.60	990.30
Man-made stable fibres	527.70	456.50	401.60
Iron and steel	526.60	338.10	146.80
Knitted or crocheted fabrics	408.90	382.50	389.40
Man-made filaments	370.10	311.70	286.00
Fertilizers	281.90	195.10	267.50
Plastic and articles thereof	213.60	217.70	172.30
Organic chemicals	175.30	182.50	267.50
Mineral fuels	152.60	110.40	11.50
Articles of apparels and clothing accessories	136.20	125.90	129.60
Lime and cement	133.10	82.30	39.48
Ships, boats and floating structures	132.20	85.80	70.51
Inorganic chemicals	127.50	144.40	146.50
Tanning or dyeing extracts	127.30	121.8	120.00
Special woven fabrics	125.20	108.50	106.60
Vehicles other than railways and parts	119.90	104.30	91.50
Paper and paperboard	118.40	94.10	82.10
Medical or surgical instruments	93.50	59.50	64.60
Others	1381.10	1139.70	986.01
Total	9669.10	8224.30	7550.10

Source: Bangladesh Bank

# **MEMBERS NEWS**

# NESTLÉ BANGLADESH LIMITED SIGNS MOU FOR 'NESTLÉ HEALTHY KIDS PROGRAMME'

Nestlé Bangladesh Limited recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Dr. Md. Nazrul Islam Khan, Professor, Institute of Nutrition and Food Science (INFS), University of Dhaka for conducting 'Nestlé Healthy Kids Programme' as a part of 'Nestlé Healthy Kids' Global Programme. The training module is jointly prepared by Nestlé Bangladesh and Dr. Md. Nazrul Islam Khan and will be conducted in the 22 schools of Gazipur district to cover 3,000 students in 2017. As a part of Nestlé's 'Creating Shared Value' (CSV) projects, Nestlé Bangladesh Limited has been sharing nutritional knowledge through nutrition experts of the country with the health professionals



and other general people. Mr. Stéphane Nordé, Managing Director of Nestlé Bangladesh Limited, Dr. Md. Nazrul Islam Khan, Professor of INFS, University of Dhaka, Mr. Naquib Khan, Corporate Affairs Director, Mr. Mirza Golam Hossain, Senior Manager, Corporate Affairs and Ms. Farah Sharmeen Aolad, Corporate Communication Manager of Nestlé Bangladesh Limited are seen in the picture.

# BRAC BANK SUPPORTS UCEP INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

BRAC Bank Limited has partnered to support UCEP Institute of Science and Technology (UIST), which provides technical education at affordable cost. The contribution will be used to establish an E-Library for the students of the polytechnic institute at Mirpur, Dhaka. Mr. Selim R. F. Hussain, Managing Director & CEO, BRAC Bank, handed over the contribution to Mr. A Q Siddiqui, Chairperson, UCEP Board of Governors, at a program held at BRAC Bank Head Office. Mr. Zaki Hasan, Chief Executive Officer, UCEP Bangladesh, and other senior officials were present. UIST Dhaka is the first polytechnic institute of UCEP Bangladesh to provide quality higher technical education to the youth of the country.



# **IDLC: WINNER FOR SAFA BEST PRESENTED ANNUAL REPORT AWARDS 2015**

IDLC Finance Ltd. has been honored with South Asian Federation of Accountants (SAFA) Best Presented Annual Report Awards 2015 under the category of financial services sectors. The award giving ceremony was held at Pan Pacific Sonargaon hotel on 27th January, 2017. Mr. Arif Khan, CEO & Managing Director of IDLC, received the awards from Mr. Abul Maal Abdul Muhit , the Finance Minister. It also bags SAARC Anniversary Award for Corporate Governance Disclosure as the winner. Besides, the company was awarded 'Certificate of Merit' for the year 2015 in the 'Integrated Reporting' category.



# MTB CLOSES DEAL WITH DEG FOR US\$ 20 MILLION TERM LOAN

Mutual Trust Bank Limited (MTB) recently closed a term loan deal for US\$ 20 million with DEG, a German development finance institution. The closing ceremony was held at a city hotel on February 6, 2017. The occasion was graced by Rena Terfrüchte, Director Financial Institutions Europe/Asia at DEG, Pathomwong Gerdbhoca, Senior Investment Manager, DEG, M.A. Rouf, JP, Chairman, Anwarul Amin, Independent Director and Anis A. Khan, Managing Director & CEO of MTB. Syed Rafiqul Haq, Deputy Managing Director & Chief Business Officer (CBO),



Md. Ehethesham Rahman, Vice President & Head of Structured Finance Unit (SFU) of MTB and other senior officials of both the organizations were also present at the occasion.

# SOUTHEAST BANK SIGNED MOU WITH APOLLO HOSPITALS DHAKA

Southeast Bank Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Apollo Hospitals Dhaka on February 13, 2017 at Southeast Bank, Head office, Dhaka. Under the agreement, Apollo Hospitals will provide priority corporate benefits and medical services to the bank's staff and their family members. Mr. Shahid Hossain, Managing Director, Southeast Bank and Mr. Md. Enayet Ullah Khan, Director, Business Development, Apollo Hospitals Dhaka signed the MoU on behalf of their respective organizations. Among others, Mr. Mohammed Gofran, Additional



Managing Director, Mr. S.M. Mainuddin Chowdhury, Additional Managing Director, Mr. Muhammad Shahjahan, Additional Managing Director & Company Secretary of Southeast Bank were present at the signing ceremony.

#### BANK ASIA SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH SME FOUNDATION

Bank Asia and SME Foundation recently signed separate agreement on 16th February, 2017 to facilitate financing to women entrepreneurs involved in manufacturing and service sector business in rural areas, and cluster of electrical product in the suburb of Dhaka city. Under the agreement Bank Asia will finance women entrepreneurs around the country except Dhaka and Chittagong city corporation areas, and cluster of electrical products at Shampur, Jurain, Kadamtoli and the adjacent areas in Dhaka. Each eligible micro and small entrepreneur will enjoy credit facility of Tk. 50,000 to Tk. 10,00,000 at the



interest rate of 9 per cent from the bank under the SME Foundation's Credit Wholesaling Program. Mr. Md. Arfan Ali, President & Managing Director of Bank Asia and Mr. MD. Shafiqul Islam, Managing Director of SME Foundation inked the agreement on behalf respective sides at a function held at SME Foundation office at Kawran Bazar in Dhaka. Senior Executive Vice President and Head of SME and Agri Division of Bank Asia Mr. Sarder Akhter Hamed, General Manager of SME Foundation Mr. S. M. Shaheen Anwar and Deputy General Manager of SME Foundation Mr. Md. Nazeem H. Sattar and high officials of both the organizations were present.

# ICT DIVISION, ROBI-10 MINUTE SCHOOL PROMOTE DIGITAL EDUCATION

ICT Division, Robi Axiata Limited and the country's largest online school 10 Minute School are now working together for promotion of digital education in the country. A tripartite agreement was signed in this regard among the organizations on January 15, 2017 at the Janata Tower Software Development Park, Karwan Bazar in Dhaka. ICT Department's Director General (Additional Secretary), Mr. Banamali Bhowmick; Robi's Chief Corporate and People Officer (CCPO) Mr. Matiul Islam Nowshad and 10 Minute School's Founder and CEO, Ayman Sadiq signed the agreement on behalf of their respective



organizations. The State Minister for ICT Division, Mr. Zunaid Ahmed Palak MP and ICT Division's Secretary, Mr. Shyam Sunder Sikder were present on the occasion. Under the agreement, ICT Division, Robi Axiata Limited and 10 Minute School will also be offering Nano degree programs in ICT Division's training facilities and in the high-tech parks around the country. These Nano degree programs are designed to help develop digital skill set of the students. Besides, Robi- 10 Minute School will be introducing their digital education content to the youth taking part in the Learning and Earning Melas organized by ICT division.

#### AB BANK 26TH PRESIDENT CUP GOLF TOURNAMENT CONCLUDED

AB Bank 26th President Cup Golf Tournament was recently held at the Bhatiary Golf & Country Club with much enthusiasm and festivity on January 27, 2017. Almost 150 golfers took part in the event which was sponsored by AB Bank Limited. Major General Md. Jahangir Kabir Talukder, awc, psc, General Officer Commanding 24 Infantry Division & Area Commander, Chittagong and President, Bhatiary Golf & Country Club gave away prizes among the winners as the Chief Guest. Special guest Mr. Shamim Ahmed Chaudhury, President & Managing Director of AB Bank Ltd. along with other executives of the bank was present on the occasion.



# **SQUARE TOILETRIES HOLDS ITS ANNUAL SALES CONFERENCE**

The Annual Sales Conference of Square Toiletries Limited took place at Hotel Sea Palace in Cox's Bazaar. The conference was inaugurated by Mr. Anjan Chowdhury, the Managing Director of the company. The Director of Accounts & Finance, Mr. Md. Golam Kibria; Head of Sales and Distribution, Mr. Abu Tayeb Siddiquee; Head of Marketing Mr. Malik Mohammed Sayeed and Senior Manager, Sales and Distribution, Mr. Sayed Abul Kashem were present at the event. It should be noted that Square Toiletries Limited has been producing and distributing world-class



toiletries products in line with consumer demand for a very long time. In his speech at the conference, Mr. Anjan Chowdhury stressed the importance of establishing a better sales and service network for the consumer through proper monitoring. Mr. K.M. Saiful Islam, Director of Square Hospital also delivered a special note at the conference.

# **CHAMBER EVENTS**



The new office bearers of Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka led by its President, Ms. Nihad Kabir, called on Commerce Minister, Mr. Tofail Ahmed, MP at his Secretariat office on 2 February, 2017.



The Chamber organized its First Quarterly Luncheon Meeting 2017 at the Chamber on 12 February 2017. Mr. Fazle Kabir, Governor of Bangladesh Bank attended the program as the Chief Guest. Ms Nihasd Kabir, the President of the Chamber is seen speaking on the occasion.



A 7-member business delegation from Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), led by Mr. Pankaj Tandon, Vice President – SAARC & TD, visited the Chamber on 15 February, 2017 and discussed issues of mutual interest with the Chamber members.



Participants at the discussion with CII business delegation on  $15\ \text{February}, 2017$ 

# **REVIEW**

# **FOREIGN TRADE**

The country's foreign trade amounted to US\$39386.92 million during July-December 2016-17. The overall trade deficit widened by 37.22 percent during July-December 2016-17, due to higher import payments and lower export receipts. The deficit rose to \$5790.72 million during July-December 2016-17 from \$4219.92 million in the same period of the previous fiscal (See Table-1).



Table-1: Balance of Trade

	July-Dec. 2014-15	July-Dec. 2015-16	July-Dec. 2016-17						
	(In millio	n US\$)							
Trade balance	-4677.27	-4219.92	-5790.72						
Total exports <sup>1</sup>	14914.21	16083.90	16798.10						
Total imports*	19591.48	20303.82	22588.82						
(Annual change in million US\$)									
Trade balance	-1565.36	457.35	-1570.80						
Total exports	228.40	1169.69	714.20						
Total imports	1793.76	712.34	2285.00						
	(Annual percen	tage change)							
Trade balance	-50.30	9.78	-37.22						
Total exports	1.56	7.84	4.44						
Total imports	10.08	3.64	11.25						

Note: \* = LC Settlement, 1= Exports (EPB)

# **EXPORT EARNINGS**

During July-December 2016-17, total export earnings (EPB) amounted to US\$16798.10 million compared to \$16083.90 million earned during July-December 2015-16, showing a rise of \$714.20 million or 4.44 percent. However, against the target of \$17367.00 million set for the period, export earnings fell by \$568.90 million or 3.28 percent. Compared to the same period of previous fiscal year, export earnings increased from woven garments, knitwear, footwear, jute goods, home textiles, leather & leather products, frozen food, raw jute, plastic products, pharmaceuticals and vegetables (See Table-2).

Table-2: Export earnings of the following major commodities increased during July-December 2016-17

-										
Commodities	Export earnings1 (In Mn. US\$)				Annual absolute change (In Mn.US\$)		Annual percentage Change (%)		Share in total export (%)	
Commountes	July-Dec. 2014-15	July-Dec. 2015-16	July-Dec. 2016-17	July-Dec. 2015-16	July-Dec. 2016-17	July-Dec. 2015-16	July-Dec. 2016-17	July-Dec. 2015-16	July-Dec. 2016-17	
Woven garments	5962.70	6703.53	6896.12	740.83	192.59	12.42	2.87	41.68	41.05	
Knitwear	6061.58	6432.05	6813.58	370.47	381.53	6.11	5.93	39.99	40.56	
Footwear	324.45	368.93	403.65	44.48	34.72	13.71	9.41	2.29	2.40	
Jute goods	373.06	348.78	369.33	-24.28	20.55	-6.51	5.89	2.17	2.20	
Home textiles	298.61	348.43	352.57	49.82	4.14	16.68	1.19	2.17	2.10	
Leather & l eather products	321.19	308.88	344.49	-12.31	35.61	-3.83	11.53	1.92	2.05	
Frozen food	355.03	285.76	291.56	-69.27	5.80	-19.51	2.03	1.78	1.74	
Raw Jute	56.46	74.96	103.24	18.50	28.28	32.77	37.73	0.47	0.61	
Plastic Products	53.64	44.34	64.33	-9.30	19.99	-17.34	45.08	0.28	0.38	
Pharmaceuticals	36.76	43.09	45.10	6.33	2.01	17.22	4.66	0.27	0.27	
Vegetables	61.05	32.95	41.21	-28.10	8.26	-46.03	25.07	0.20	0.25	

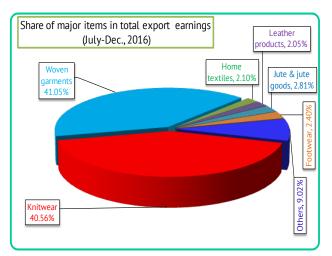
Note: 1= Export Earnings (EPB), Source: Export Promotion Bureau

However, earnings decreased from petroleum by products, engineering equipments, cotton yarn & waste, man made filaments & staple fibers, bicycle, electric products, tobacco, terry towel, ceramic products, fruits and cut flower (See Table-3).

Table-3: Export earnings of the following major commodities declined during July-December 2016-17

Commodities	Export earnings1 (In Mn. US\$)			Annual absolute change (In Mn.US\$)		Annual pe Chang		Share in total export (%)	
	July-Dec. 2014-15	July-Dec. 2015-16	July-Dec. 2016-17	July-Dec. 2015-16	July-Dec. 2016-17	July-Dec. 2015-16	July-Dec. 2016-17	July-Dec. 2015-16	July-Dec. 2016-17
Petroleum byproducts	26.71	127.59	108.77	100.88	-18.82	377.69	-14.75	0.79	0.65
Engineering equipments	33.01	130.90	85.50	97.89	-45.40	296.55	-34.68	0.81	0.51
Cotton yarn & waste	52.37	51.51	50.97	-0.86	-0.54	-1.64	-1.05	0.32	0.30
Man made filaments & staple fibers	47.00	52.47	49.85	5.47	-2.62	11.64	-4.99	0.33	0.30
Bicycle	60.17	42.50	37.22	-17.67	-5.28	-29.37	-12.42	0.26	0.22
Electric products	56.87	32.78	31.81	-24.09	-0.97	-42.36	-2.96	0.20	0.19
Tobacco	52.58	39.36	31.71	-13.22	-7.65	-25.14	-19.44	0.24	0.19
Terry towel	20.21	25.51	20.49	5.30	-5.02	26.22	-19.68	0.16	0.12
Ceramic products	22.70	20.10	19.65	-2.60	-0.45	-11.45	-2.24	0.12	0.12
Fruits	26.55	17.10	0.35	-9.45	-16.75	-35.59	-97.95	0.11	0.00
Cut flower	5.96	4.23	0.02	-1.73	-4.21	-29.03	-99.53	0.03	0.00

The share of knitwear and woven garments in total exports was 81.61 percent during July-December 2016-17 compared to 81.67 percent during July-December 2015-16 (See table 2).



During July-December 2016-17, the country's major export destinations (in US\$ million) were: United States (2857.06), Germany (2817.55), UK (1665.80), Spain (963.80), France (927.91), Italy (696.32), Japan (506.98), Belgium (481.15), Canada (493.53), Netherlands (476.81), China (462.03), Denmark (355.37), Poland (355.36), Australia (312.40), India (341.45), Turkey (321.30), Sweden (232.71), UAE (176.49), Czech Republic (185.75), Russia (192.08), South Korea (121.74), Hong Kong (94.61), Saudi Arabia (89.78), Malaysia (94.60), Ireland (77.54), Mexico (74.78) and Norway (62.70).

Note: 1= Export Earnings (EPB), Source: Export Promotion Bureau

# **IMPORT PAYMENTS**

During July-December 2016-17, total import payments (LC settlement) rose by US\$2285.00 million or 11.25 percent to \$22588.82 million compared to \$20303.82 million during July-December 2015-16. The industrial raw materials topped the list in the review period with import amounting to \$8042.38 million, sharing 35.60 percent of total import, followed by capital machinery \$2867.67 million (12.70 percent), petroleum & petroleum products \$1157.28 million (5.12 percent) and food grains (rice & wheat) \$581.53 million (2.57 percent) (See table 4).

During the period under review, imports of industrial raw materials increased by 4.92 percent and capital machinery 69.91 percent. However, imports of food grains (rice & wheat) declined by 6.98 percent and petroleum & petroleum products by 19.63 percent (See Table 4).

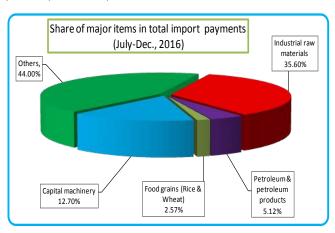


Table-4: Import Payments of major commodities during July-December 2016-17

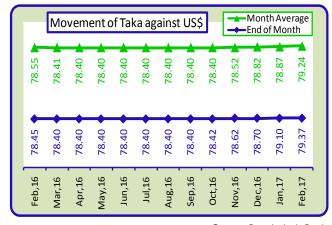
	Im	port payme (In Mn. US\$)	nts*	Annual a	absolute n Mn.US\$)		ercentage ge (%)	Share in total import (%)	
Commodities	July-Dec. 2014-15	July-Dec. 2015-16	July-Dec. 2016-17	July-Dec. 2015-16	July-Dec. 2016-17	July-Dec. 2015-16	July-Dec. 2016-17	July-Dec. 2015-16	July-Dec. 2016-17
Industrial raw materials	7626.04	7665.38	8042.38	39.34	377.00	0.52	4.92	37.75	35.60
Capital machinery	1470.74	1687.73	2867.67	216.99	1179.94	14.75	69.91	8.31	12.70
Petroleum & petroleum products	2041.41	1439.88	1157.28	-601.53	-282.60	-29.47	-19.63	7.09	5.12
Food grains (Rice & Wheat)	680.11	625.18	581.53	-54.93	-43.65	-8.08	-6.98	3.08	2.57
Others	7773.18	8885.65	9939.96	1112.47	1054.31	14.31	11.87	43.76	44.00
Total	19591.48	20303.82	22588.82	712.34	2285.00	3.64	11.25	100.00	100.00

Note: \* = LC Settlement, Source: Bangladesh Bank



EXCHANGE RATE MOVEMENTS

Taka depreciated against US\$ by 1.17 percent to Tk. 79.37 on 27 February 2017 from its level of Tk. 78.45 at the end of February 2016. Meanwhile, Taka also depreciated by 0.88 percent to Tk. 79.24 on averages in February 2017 from its average level of Tk. 78.55 in February 2016.



Source: Bangladesh Bank

# **STOCK MARKET**



The broad index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) rose by 2.64% to 5612.70 on 27 February 2017 from 5468.34 at the end of January 2017. The market capitalization increased by 1.94% during the month to Tk 3739.30 billion from Tk 3668.12 billion at the end of January 2017. On 27 February 2017, total turnover in the DSE was 312.24 million in volume and Tk 11524.44 million in value.

The all share index of the Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE) rose by 2.58% to 17375.73 on 27 February 2017 from 16937.97 at the end of January 2017. The market capitalization also rose by 1.41% to Tk 3041.14 billion from Tk 2998.77 billion at the end of January 2017. Total turnover was 33.97 million in volume and Tk 932.93 million in value in the CSE on 27 February 2017.

# STATISTICS

# MAJOR ECONOMIC INDICATORS-BANGLADESH

MAJOR ECONOMIC INDICA	OKS DAILE	LADESII									
Period Indicators	23 Feb., 201	7 31 Jan.	, 2017	29 Dec.,	2016	30 N	lov., 2016	22 Fel	o., 2016	FY 2015-16 <sup>p</sup>	FY 2014-15
Foreign exchange reserve (in million US\$)	32291.68(15.5	31724.1	7(16.9)	32091.90	(17.0)	3137	31370.88(18.8) 27950.35(		35(21.4)	30137.60 (20.4)	25025.20(16.1)
	Feb.,2017	Jan.,2	1017	Dec.,20	)16	No	ov.,2016	Fet	., 16	FY 2015-16 P	FY 2014-15
Exchange rate (Tk./US\$) (average)	79.24	78.	87	78.78	8	78.40		78	3.55	78.40	77.80
	Jul-Jan., 2016	5-17	Jan., 2	2017	Jul-Ja	an., 201	015-16 Jan., 2016		FY2015-16	FY2014-15	
Wage earners' remittances ( in million US\$)	7176.29 (-16	5.9)	1009.44	4 (-12.3) 8637.82 (		1.1)	1150.63	(-7.5)	14931.14 (-2.5)	15316.90 (7.7)	
Overseas employment (no. of persons)	466270 (24	.1)	81434	4 (27.2) 37564		5640 (5	2.7)	63998(1	25.8)	684537 (48.2)	461829 (12.9)
	Jul-Dec., 2016	5-17	Dec.,	2016	Jul-D	ec., 20	15-16	Dec., 2	015	FY2015-16 <sup>p</sup>	FY2014-15
Imports (C&F) (in million US\$)	22609.80 (8	.2)	3994.1	.0(2.5)	208	399.50	(8.9)	3898.30	(26.7)	42920.80 (5.5)	40703.70(11.3)
Imports(f.o.b) (in million US\$)	20920.00 (8	.2)	3694.0	0 (2.4)	193	337.00	(8.9)	3606.00	(26.7)	39715.00 (5.5)	37662.00(11.3)
	Jul-Jan., 2016	5-17	Jan., 2	2017	Jul-Ja	an., 201	L5-16	Jan., 20	016	FY2015-16 <sup>P</sup>	FY2014-15
Exports (EPB) (in million US\$)	20110.14 (4	.4)	3312.0	4 (4.0)	192	69.53	(8.3)	3185.63	(10.4)	34241.82 (9.7)	31208.94 (3.4))
	Jul-Oct., 2016	5-17	Oct, 2	.016 <sup>P</sup>	Jul-0	ct., 20	15-16	Oct, 20	)15	FY2015-16 <sup>p</sup>	FY2014-15 <sup>p</sup>
Tax revenue (NBR) (Tk. in billion)	498.75 (17.	8)	134.39	(19.6)	42	3.51(1	3.1)	112.35(	15.5)	1555.19 (13.7)	1367.24 (13.2 )
Investment in national savings certificates (Tk. in billion)	Jul-Dec., 2016	5-17	Dec.,	2016		ec., 20		Dec., 2		FY2015-16 <sup>P</sup>	FY2014-15
A) Net sale	234.74		31.			133.06		19.8		336.89	287.33
B) Total outstanding	1622.92 Jul-Oct., 2016	5-17	1622 Oct, 2			1184.3 ct., 201		1184. Oct, 20		1388.19 FY2015-16 <sup>P</sup>	1051.30 FY2014-15 <sup>p</sup>
Net foreign aid (in million US\$)	445.38 (2.7		161.13	(-14.9)		3.65(1		189.29 (1		2582.77 (17.5)	2197.32 (20.1)
	Jul-Dec., 2	2016-17	Ju	ul-Dec., 2015	-16		FY2	015-16 <sup>p</sup>		FY2014-15 <sup>p</sup>	FY2013-14
Current account balance (in million US\$)	-793	.00		1852.00			37	706.00		2875.00	4122.00
Rate of inflation on the basis of consumer Price index for national (base:2005-06=100)	Jan.,2017	Dec.,2016	N	lov.,2016	Oct.,2	2016	Sep.,20	)16 Jan	., 2016	FY2015-16 <sup>P</sup>	FY2014-15
A) Twelve month average basis B) Point to point basis	5.44 5.15	5.52 5.03		5.60 5.38	5.6 5.5		5.71 5.53	- 1	5.20 5.07	5.92 5.53	6.41 6.25
Reserve money and credit developments (Tk. in billion)	Dec., 2016		Nov., 2			ec, 20		FY201		FY2014-15 <sup>p</sup>	FY2013-14
A) Reserve money (RM) B) Broad money (M2) Total domestic credit A) Net credit to the govt. Sector B)Credit to the other public sector C) Credit to the private sector	1914.98 (19 9540.54 (13 8320.38 (12 986.39 (-4 163.80 (-1) 7170.20 (19	3.8) 2.3) .7)	1869.23 9387.21 8189.48 1086.45 157.46 6945.58	1(13.8) 3(12.1) 5(-1.3) (-3.1)	13.8) 83 12.1) 74 (-1.3) 10 3.1) 16		4 4 9	447.19 1294.10 <u>984.85</u> 39.62 -6.19( 951.41	(16.4) ( <u>14.0)</u> (3.6) -3.7)	186.07(14.3) 869.90(12.4) 636.20(9.9) -72.72(-6.2) 39.33(30.9) 669.59 (13.2)	173.86(15.5) 970.18(16.1) 661.69(11.6) 74.05(6.7) 32.82(34.7) 554.83 (12.3)
Interest rate development	Dec.,16	Nov.,16		Oct.,16	Sep.,1	6205.0 16	Dec., 15		15-16 <sup>p</sup>	FY2014-15 <sup>p</sup>	FY2013-14
Lending rate (weighted average) Deposit rate (weighted average)	9.93 5.22	9.94 5.29		10.03 5.33	10.1 5.39		11.18 6.24		L0.39 5.54	11.67 6.80	13.10 7.79
Agricultural credit (Tk. in billion)	Jul-Jan., 2016	5-17	Jan., 2	2017	Jul-Ja	an., 201	15-16	Jan., 20	016	FY2015-16 <sup>p</sup>	FY2014-15
A) Disbursements	121.59 (20.	, I	22.26 (6	, I		00.79		13.24		176.46(10.4)	159.78(-0.4)
B) Recovery	108.15 (12.		18.24 (5			5.94		11.73		170.56(10.7)	154.07(-9.6)
Industrial term loan (Tk. in billion)		2016-17 <sup>P</sup>		AprJun. 201				ep. 2015-1	6	FY2015-16 <sup>P</sup>	FY2014-15 <sup>p</sup>
A) Disbursements     B) Recovery		45(2.7) 3(12.2)		167.55(1 127.71(-4	,			127.00 110.72		655.39(9.6) 482.25 (1.4)	597.83 (41.3) 475.41 (13.8)
ADP (Tk. in billion)		016-17		FY 2015				2014-15		FY 2013-14	FY 2012-13
Allocation (except self-financed )	123	33.46		970.00			-	750.00		600.00	550.00
	JulJan.	, 2016-17		JulJan., 20	15-16		JulJa	ın., 2014-1	5	JulJan, 2013-14	JulJan, 2012-13
Expenditure (% of ADP allocation)		(32.4%)		287.50 (2				5.04 (32%)		229.37 (31%)	210.39 (38%)
Overall share price index (month end)	22 Feb., 201	<u> </u>	18 Jan., 2	2017@	22 F	eb., 20		30 Jun.,	2016@	30 June, 2015@	30 June, 2014@
Dhaka stock exchange	5625.84		5533.			577.62		4507		4531.98	4480.52
Chittagong stock exchange	17429.41		17011			4149.0		13802		13916.75	13766.22
Investment (in million US\$)	Jul-Oct., 2016	0-1/	Oct, 2			ct., 20	15-16	Oct, 20		FY2015-16 <sup>p</sup>	FY2014-15 <sup>p</sup>
Foreign direct investment (FDI)	577.00		296.			529.00		284.		2001.00	1830.00
Industrial production indices (base:2005-06=100)	Oct., 2016 P	Sep, 20		Aug., 20			y, 2016 <sup>p</sup>		,2015	FY2015-16 <sup>p</sup>	FY2014-15
Manufacturing Mining (includes gas production)	267.35 190.17	244.54 176.69		306.54 191.91		1	54.30 78.87	193	5.05 1.15	267.88 185.57	236.11 159.89
Electricity	271.27	257.87		274.22			53.28		9.90	219.29	209.32
Base: 2005-06=100	2015-16 P	2014-1	5	2013-14	+		12-13		1-12	2010-11	2009-10
GDP growth rate (in percent)	7.05	6.51		6.06			5.01	6.	52	6.46	5.57

Note: P= Provisional, Figures in brackets indicate percentage changes over the year, @=DSE Broad Index, \*= Base 1995-96 Source: Bangladesh Bank, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, Export Promotion Bureau

# **EXPORT PERFORMANCE OF BANGLADESH**

(Million US \$)

EXPORT PERFORMANCE OF BA	ANGLADESH						(Million US \$)
Products	Export Performance for FY 2015-16	Export Target for FY 2016-17	Strategic Target for July-Jan. 2016- 17	Export Performance for July-Jan. 2016- 17	% Change of Export Performance Over s. Export Target	Export Performance for July-Jan. 2015-16	% Change of Export Performance July-Jan. 2016-17 Over July-Jan. 2015-16
All products (A+B+C)	34257.18	37000.00	21043.00	20110.14	-4.43	19269.53	4.36
A. Primary Commodities	1131.83	1149.00	653.47	637.29	-2.48	634.17	0.49
(1) Frozen & Live Fish	535.77	541.00	307.68	329.15	6.98	331.81	-0.80
a) Live Fish	9.14	10.00	5.69	2.33	-59.03	4.81	-51.56
b) Frozen Fish	44.49	48.00	27.30	26.33	-3.55	31.45	-16.28
c) Shrimps	448.55	450.00	255.93	284.67	11.23	277.92	2.43
d) Crabs	23.82	25.00	14.22	9.38.	0	13.23	0
e) Others	7.19	8.00	4.55	6.44	41.54	4.40	46.36
(2) Agricultural Products	596.06	608.00	345.79	308.14	-10.89	302.36	1.91
a) Tea	1.83	1.50	0.85	2.21	159.06	1.29	71.32
b) Vegetables	104.34	90.00	51.19	45.03	-12.03	40.42	11.41
c) Tobacco	54.98	56.00	31.85	33.92	6.50	41.28	-17.83
d) Cut Flower & Foliage	4.73	5.00	2.84	0.05	-98.24	4.32	-98.84
e) Fruits	20.23	21.50	12.23	0.35	-97.14	17.73	-98.03
f) Spices	29.06	33.00	18.77	17.83	-5.00	16.41	8.65
g) Dry Food	96.04	98.00	55.74	52.23	-6.29	48.00	8.81
h) Others	284.85	303.00	172.33	156.52	-9.17	132.91	17.76
B. Manufactured Commodities	32973.52	35691.00	20298.53	19375.99	-4.54	18563.58	4.38
(1) Cement, Salt, Stone Etc	2.17	2.00	1.14	4.95	335.18	1.29	283.72
(2) Ores, Slag and Ash	6.30	5.40	3.07	4.07	32.52	4.31	-5.57
(3) Petroleum bi Products	297.01	370.00	210.43	149.50	-28.95	208.32	-28.24
(4) Chemical Products	123.65	138.90	79.00	82.36	4.26	72.37	13.80
a) Pharmaceuticals	82.11	95.00	54.03	52.64	-2.57	48.51	8.51
b) Chemical Fertilizer	0.05	0.07	0.04	5.62	14016.67	0.05	11140.00
c) Cosmetics	1.36	1.30	0.74	0.46		0.57	-19.30
d) Others	40.13	42.53	24.19	23.64	-2.27	23.24	1.72
(5) Plastic Products	89.00	93.50	53.18	75.39	41.77	51.73	45.74
a) PVC Bags	31.24	32.00	18.20	17.22	-5.38	19.24	-10.50
b) Plastic Waste	22.41	22.00	12.51	17.55	40.26	13.59	29.14
c) Others	35.35	39.50	22.46	40.62	80.82	18.90	114.92
(6) Rubber	23.53	29.00	16.49	13.84	-16.09	14.25	-2.88
(7) Leather & Leather Products	1160.95	1220.00	693.85	743.77	7.19	663.02	12.18
(a) Leather	277.90	280.00	159.24	164.70	3.43	161.91	1.72
(b) Leather Products	388.22	450.00	255.93	243.21	-4.97	204.08	19.17
(c) Leather Footwear	494.83	490.00	278.68	335.86	20.52	297.03	13.07
(8) Wood & Wood Products	5.92	7.00	3.98	4.07	2.23	2.93	38.91
(9) Handicrafts	10.01	11.00	6.26	8.37	33.79	5.50	52.18
(10) Pulp	0.05	0.08	0.05	0.00	-100.00	0.03	-100.00
(11) Paper & Paper Products	42.16	50.00	28.44	33.84	19.00	24.31	39.20
(12) Printed Materials	1.02	1.10	0.63	0.55	-12.08	0.70	-21.43
(13) Silk	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	-12.08	0.01	0.00

(Million US \$)

							(Million US
Products	Export Performance for FY 2015-16	Export Target for FY 2016-17	Strategic Target for July-Jan. 2016-17	Export Performance for July-Jan. 2016-17	% Change of Export Performance Over s. Export Target	Export Performance for July-Jan. 2015-16	% Change of Export performance July-Jan. 2016-17 Over July-Jan. 2015-16
(14) Wool & Woolen Products	0.14	0.15	0.09	0.20	134.44	0.05	300.00
(15) Cotton & Cotton Product (Yarn, Waste, Fabrics etc)	102.76	105.00	59.72	60.09	0.63	59.25	1.42
(16) Jute & Jute goods	919.58	964.00	548.26	563.98	2.87	494.52	14.05
a) Raw Jute	173.17	182.00	103.51	115.79	11.86	83.43	38.79
b) Jute Yarn & Twine	558.73	590.00	335.55	329.42	-1.83	301.38	9.30
c) Jute Sacks & Bags	122.53	124.00	70.52	92.71	31.46	72.66	27.59
d) Others	65.15	68.00	38.67	26.06	-32.62	37.05	-29.66
(17) Man Made Filaments & Staple Fibres	112.17	130.00	73.93	58.65	-20.67	61.82	-5.13
(18) Carpet (Jute & Others -57)	17.94	18.00	10.24	9.28	-9.35	10.73	-13.51
(19) Specialized Textiles	108.72	119.00	67.68	58.28	-13.89	62.14	-6.21
a) Terry Towel	47.80	55.00	31.28	24.93	-20.30	30.07	-17.09
b) Special Woven Fabric	16.06	18.00	10.24	9.57	-6.52	8.87	7.89
c) Knitted Fabrics	36.40	36.00	20.47	20.09	-1.88	18.93	6.13
d) Other	8.46	10.00	5.69	3.69	-35.12	4.27	-13.58
(20) RMG	28094.16	30379.00	17277.44	16413.23	-5.00	15761.28	4.14
(a) Knitwear	13355.42	14169.00	8058.33	8060.30	0.02	7601.75	6.03
(b) Woven Garments	14738.74	16210.00	9219.11	8352.93	-9.40	8159.53	2.37
(21) Home Textile	753.01	775.00	440.77	427.21	-3.08	421.22	1.42
a) Bed, Kitchen toilet lines	468.77	465.00	264.46	269.29	1.83	278.01	-3.14
b) Other	284.24	310.00	176.31	157.92	-10.43	143.21	10.27
(22) Other Footwear	219.18	250.00	142.18	139.98	-1.55	134.21	4.30
(23) Headgear/Cap	148.70	190.00	108.06	107.88	-0.17	71.16	51.60
(24) Umbrella Waking Sticks	0.14	0.15	0.09	0.03	-64.83	0.03	0.00
(25) Wigs & Human Hair	17.54	19.00	10.81	9.25	-14.40	10.30	-10.19
(26) Building Materials	0.15	0.20	0.11	0.32	181.33	0.15	113.33
(27) Ceramic Products	37.69	38.00	21.61	22.94	6.15	23.44	-2.13
(28) Glass & Glass ware	1.65	1.60	0.91	1.07	17.59	0.92	16.30
(29) Engineering Products	510.08	584.90	332.65	282.92	-14.96	317.09	-10.78
a) Iron Steel	48.56	48.90	27.81	25.85	-7.05	23.25	11.18
b) Copper Wire	24.47	25.00	14.22	16.46	15.77	14.80	11.22
c) Stainless Steel ware	9.22	11.00	6.26	4.40	-29.67	4.80	-8.33
d) Engineering Equipment	174.80	225.00	127.96	101.80	-20.45	133.17	-23.56
e) Electric Products	65.00	65.00	36.97	37.29	0.87	42.77	-12.81
f) Bicycle	99.15	100.00	56.87	44.51	-21.74	50.47	-11.81
g) Others	88.88	110.00	62.56	52.61	-15.94	47.83	9.99
(30) Ships, boats & floating structures	19.89	30.00	17.06	5.45	-68.06	7.48	-27.14
(31) Other mfd Products	148.23	159.00	90.43	94.51	4.51	79.02	19.60
a) Optical, Photographic, Medical Instruments etc	60.10	60.00	34.12	45.11	32.20	34.20	31.90
b) Furniture	46.26	55.00	31.28	23.65	-24.39	19.17	23.37
c) Golf Shaft	10.58	11.00	6.26	8.34	33.31	6.79	22.83
d) Others	31.29	33.00	18.77	17.41	-7.24	18.86	-7.69
C. Computer Services	151.83	160.00	91.00	96.86(Jul	-27.79	71.78(Jul	34.94

Source: Export Promotion Bureau

# **VALUE OF LETTERS OF CREDIT OPENED FOR IMPORT**

(Million US\$)

	Freeh I-Co	ononing	Cottlema	ont of I Co	Outstanding ICs		
Sectors / Commodities	Fresh LCs		Settleme		Outstanding LCs		
	July-Dec. 2016-17	July-Dec. 2015-16	July-Dec. 2016-17	July-Dec. 2015-16	July-Dec. 2016-17	July-Dec. 2015-16	
A. Consumer goods	3050.65	2322.33	2388.18	2333.09	2109.38	1587.72	
Rice and wheat	783.58	646.16	581.53	625.18	470.57	357.21	
Sugar and salt	502.19	267.60	328.44	399.69	556.54	333.39	
Milk food	137.59	97.65	104.48	106.77	96.53	90.09	
Edible oil (refined)	432.65	340.24	394.53	315.31	340.02	310.57	
All kinds of fruits	164.14	135.24	114.44	107.14	59.76	43.63	
Pulses	285.46	177.70	194.17	137.25	203.59	154.78	
Onion	103.51	172.38	97.50	158.41	33.38	35.96	
Spices	83.33	50.74	79.33	60.95	27.66	17.11	
Second-hand clothings	0.15	1.11	1.62	3.33	0.04	2.10	
Drugs and medicines (finished)	45.12	39.51	36.27	32.79	24.41	21.97	
Others	512.93	394.01	455.87	386.28	296.88	220.92	
B. Intermediate goods	2010.77	1706.63	1830.70	1666.98	1736.06	1496.13	
Coal	147.39	111.05	97.32	128.21	96.61	74.15	
Clinion & Limestone	6.46	4.63	7.10	4.90	9.72	5.76	
Clinker & limestone	288.94	240.77	287.89	272.42	194.33	174.18	
B.P. Sheet	141.21	130.62	147.67	152.09	164.47	175.95	
Tin plate	7.27	6.93	4.05	9.04	7.14	2.35	
Scrap Vessels	356.09	305.58	378.56	329.58	376.38	349.05	
Iron and steel scrap	389.78	284.74	324.19	254.62	360.43	211.52	
Non-ferrous metal	115.72	139.28	113.88	117.19	94.33	96.29	
Paper and paper board	191.00	169.31	158.09	155.85	136.25	159.46	
Other	366.91	313.72	311.96	243.09	296.40	247.41	
C. Industrial raw materials	8058.32	8215.54	8042.38	7665.38	5632.24	7669.86	
Edible oil & oil seeds	504.93	707.05	496.05	523.15	603.07	724.09	
Textile fabrics (B/B & others)	3427.13	3367.43	3272.67	3101.85	1973.65	2840.53	
Pharmaceutical raw materials	308.39	256.00	279.12	262.38	137.54	114.91	
Raw cotton	1052.64	1032.56	1151.80	980.75	905.21	1328.74	
Cotton yarn	584.21	526.72	595.73	557.19	419.43	459.24	
Copra	1.55	4.68	2.24	3.63	2.30	2.96	
Synthetic fibre & yarn	348.11	340.56	325.67	320.52	254.46	315.44	
Chemicals & chem. products	1831.35	1980.52	1919.10	1915.91	1336.57	1883.94	
D. Capital machinery	2448.19	2396.56	2867.67	1687.73	5325.86	5661.48	
Textile machinery	352.72	371.68	342.73	229.56	614.47	601.57	
Leather/tannery	9.96	25.29	15.63	4.59	11.16	20.57	
Jute industry	1.28	1.54	11.50	3.56	4.14	5.91	
Garment Industry	388.40	355.46	350.97	265.46	622.24	603.03	
Pharmaceutical industry	89.62	47.46	53.97	41.52	98.95	48.78	
Packing industry	5.68	10.28	9.48	5.44	10.96	10.26	
Other industry	1600.53	1584.85	2083.38	1137.60	3963.93	4371.36	
E. Machinery for misc. industry	2497.06	2017.34	2346.12	2190.41	1879.89	2021.14	
Other machineries	415.21	353.19	393.25	378.15	294.65	412.83	
Marine diesel engine	5.84	8.51	10.82	11.60	44.53	63.66	
Computer & its accessories	179.62	175.47	184.64	177.00	96.33	101.84	
Motor vehicle & motorcyclwe parts	67.56	63.18	50.17	63.47	37.83	29.83	
Bicycle parts	40.98	29.97	28.35	24.21	28.86	18.48	
Other Iron and steel products	261.35	184.86	252.50	202.88	202.64	224.63	
Motor vehicles	531.06	411.30	449.51	389.83	256.10	185.55	
Other electronics components	103.46	81.83	72.48	74.83	99.45	75.31	
Tractors & power tiller	44.30	51.04	39.02	43.85	21.31	25.51	
Others	847.69	658.00	865.37	824.59	798.18	883.52	
F. Petroleum & petroleum products							
	1262.29	1180.98	1157.28	1439.88	621.41	762.04	
Crude	204.84	184.25	123.27	371.96	187.50	325.62	
Refined	1057.45	996.74	1034.01	1067.92	433.91	436.42	
G. Others	3695.58	3225.36	3956.49	3320.34	3191.06	3463.17	
Total	23022.85	21064.74	22588.82	20303.82	20495.90	22661.54	

Source: Bangladesh Bank

# QUANTUM INDEX OF PRODUCTION OF SELECTED INDUSTRIAL ITEMS (Base Year 2005-06=100)

Name of items	Unit	No. of reporting industries (selected)	2014-15	2015-16	Oct. 2015	Sep. 2016 (P)	Oct. 2016 (P)
Fish & sea food	Mt.	180 & *	55238	51739	5861	4720	4099
Processing & preserving of fruits and Vegetables	"000" Littre	3	61287	77095	5029	9795	9806
Hyd. vegetable oil	Mt.	2	609778	728260	66045	49362	56249
Grain milling	Mt.	8	298939	278952	26059	25233	28282
Rice milling	Mt.	6	21409	22216	1977	1135	1197
Sugar	Mt.	16	78904	58181	0	0	85
Black & blending tea	Mt.	116	63039	71129	7628	12716	10907
Edible salt	Mt.	8	78912	92262	5385	7222	6023
Animal feeds	Mt.	3	400996	453299	36695	41610	41868
Spirits & alcohol	"000" Littre	1	4561	4207	322	370	330
Soft drinks	`000' Doz Bottle	4	64523	67201	7868	6667	7385
Mineral water	"000" Littre	4	133086	205579	26470	9667	8386
Cigarettes	Mill. No	1	26484	22274	2132	1388	1621
Biddies	Mill. No	5	85678	82968	7105	6268	7484
Preparation & spinning of textile fibers	Mt.	20	140485	160645	13863	12313	15450
Weaving of textiles	"000" Metre	15	44692	47444	3964	3898	3967
Dyeing, bleaching & finishing	"000" Metre	19	75336	57362	3660	5782	3360
Jute textile	Mt.	95	306678	388277	22143	19891	30468
Wearing apparel	Million Tk.	*	1014728	1132032	68413	70096	80061
Knitwear	Million Tk.	*	960188	1027873	71642	72752	88933
Tanning & finishing leather:	"000" Sq.M.	175 & *	34708	22305	1606	1816	1836
Leather footwear	"000" Pair	4	15292	12355	871	1675	1680
Particle board/ plywood	"000"Sq.M.	2	8782	9818	805	872	875
Pulp, paper & newsprint	Mt.	3	163270	165210	13655	13958	13962
Articles made of paper	Mt.	2	36712	38576	3206	3247	3252
Printing of books and periodicals	"000" No.	10	163891	166392	13850	13957	13960
Petroleum refining	Mt.	1	1261905	1191612	101980	232342	227288
Compressed liquidified gas	Cylinder(12.5kg0	2	1375458	1324386	94602	119683	105066
Fertilizer	Mt.	7	1028157	1010446	91589	63072	62410
Perfumes and cosmetics	"000" Tk.	3	2162048	2021040	179904	319676	176027
Soaps & detergents	Mt.	3	61627	144426	11303	13683	11425
Matches	"000" Gross	2	18935	19506	1591	1835	1835
Pharmaceuticals/Allopathic drugs and medicine	"000" Tk.	20	85880189	86795811	6756220	8737982	8122330
Unani and Ayur bedic medicine	"000" Tk.	3	534104	521003	44942	40325	44929
Rubber footwear/ other rubber products	Dozen Pair	8	393588	402997	33890	23984	24360
P.V.C products/plastic products	Mt.	3	35670	40501	3198	3740	3590
Glass sheet	"000"Sq.ft	3	13556	13002	1227	1144	1162
Tiles	"000"Sq.ft.	5	159134	187933	15330	17200	17197
Ceramic	"000" Dozen	2	10396	13158	1040	1320	1343
Cement	Mt.	8	5770527	8754649	594151	704214	939698
Bricks	"000" No.	4	110808	147379	12907	12978	13330

Name of items	Unit	No. of reporting industries (selected)	2014-15	2015-16	Oct. 2015	Sep. 2016 (P)	Oct. 2016 (P)
Re-rolling mills	Mt.	31	393019	407535	27705	29912	28105
Structural metal products	"000" Mt.	5	9664	10775	817	972	963
Other fabricated metal products	Dozen	8	401482	410924	34058	36289	40373
Television	No.	3	355931	556285	42731	43936	42192
Electric motors, generators, transformers / electrical apparatus	No.	2	345474	395531	32149	41200	41400
Wires & cables(ELEC.)	Mt.	3	23955	32684	2303	3514	3245
Electrical appliances / Domestic appliances	No.	9	289036	309325	27237	31475	31271
Agriculture & forestry machinery	No.	2	82526	87798	7140	7588	7638
Machinery for textile, apparel and leather production	"000" No.	9	4099	7326	519	825	870
Machinery equipment NEC	Mt.	10	258427	298258	21089	35227	37090
Assemble of motor vehicles	No.	2	735	1363	102	253	232
Ship and boat building	Mt.	3	171484	338850	27190	22407	22780
Motor cycle	No.	3	78896	83662	6835	7452	7395
Metal furniture	No.	2	4470	3980	360	300	320
Wooden furniture	No.	5	73712	88550	7290	7743	7848
Plastic furniture	No.	2	683457	926261	68131	102716	105083
Natural Gas	MCuM	8	25727	27497	2345	2164	2345
Electricity	MKWH	1	43447	49866	4357	4887	5141

Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics. Note: n.a.=not available. p= provisional, r= revised, M.Cu.M.= million cubic meter. Mt = metric ton. MKWH = million kilowatt per hour, No.=Number, Sq.M.=Square Metre, Sq.ft.=Square Feet, Tk.= Taka, \* = EPB

# **CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: NATIONAL**

(Base: 2005-06 = 100)

		Index by expenditure group												
Period	General Index	1. Food & Beverage	2. Non- Food	I. Clothing & Footwear	II. Fuel & Lighting	III. Household Equipment	IV. Medical Care & Health Expense	V. Transport & Communication	VI. Recreation, Entertainment	VII. Misc. Goods & Services				
2011-12	170.19	183.65	152.94	160.79	143.36	175.58	152.63	148.58	144.48	164.57				
2012-13	181.73	193.24	166.97	179.66	155.61	195.33	159.66	159.34	157.23	182.54				
2013-14	195.08	209.79	176.23	194.77	163.47	206.14	164.06	167.20	164.38	193.75				
2014-15	207.58	223.80	186.79	208.50	171.80	214.45	180.77	181.78	168.02	204.21				
2015-16	219.86	234.77	200.66	233.38	182.74	227.39	199.94	201.34	171.01	211.61				
Jan.,16	222.87	236.42	205.50	237.18	190.58	230.67	205.18	206.22	171.73	212.79				
Feb.,16	222.58	235.81	205.61	237.23	190.59	230.81	205.46	206.31	171.78	213.34				
Mar.,16	223.25	236.99	205.64	237.25	190.60	230.86	205.48	206.34	171.81	213.40				
Apr.,16	223.37	237.15	205.70	237.41	190.61	230.97	205.50	206.44	171.87	213.44				
May, 16	220.15	231.86	205.13	237.44	189.19	230.92	205.52	205.80	171.93	213.26				
Jun., 16	220.74	232.87	205.19	237.96	189.26	231.02	205.64	205.88	171.95	212.44				
Jul.,16	224.13	237.69	206.75	241.40	190.22	232.95	205.91	207.41	172.56	214.73				
Aug.,16	226.57	241.89	206.93	241.59	190.26	233.62	206.08	207.56	172.68	214.95				
Sep.,16	230.27	247.88	207.69	242.85	190.62	234.01	206.32	209.32	172.72	216.62				
Oct.,16	231.85	250.64	207.75	242.88	190.65	234.23	206.38	209.42	172.76	216.65				
Nov.,16	231.18	249.41	207.81	242.94	190.68	234.31	206.42	209.51	172.80	216.74				
Dec.,16	231.53	249.29	208.76	243.49	190.87	236.54	206.83	211.61	172.91	219.53				
Jan.,17	234.34	251.86	211.88	243.72	196.92	237.24	206.90	212.14	182.20	219.22				

Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: RURAL** 

(Base: 2005-06 = 100)

		Index by expenditure group													
Period	General Index	1. Food & Beverage	2. Non- Food	I. Clothing & Footwear	II. Fuel & Lighting	III. Household Equipment	IV. Medical Care & Health Expense	V. Transport & Communication	VI. Recreation, Entertainment	VII. Misc. Goods & Services					
2011-12	173.26	183.62	156.77	164.55	146.37	169.35	156.87	150.60	158.26	168.84					
2012-13	183.90	192.14	170.79	184.54	157.40	186.40	164.63	160.98	174.07	187.05					
2013-14	196.90	207.72	179.69	200.61	164.05	197.62	168.87	166.01	179.72	199.74					
2014-15	209.10	221.02	190.13	214.07	171.34	209.29	187.18	174.09	183.84	212.34					
2015-16	220.10	230.31	203.86	242.26	179.19	222.11	211.04	188.69	187.84	221.12					
Jan.,16	222.75	231.86	208.26	246.47	185.06	225.62	218.07	192.65	189.09	222.65					
Feb.,16	222.32	231.06	208.42	246.52	185.08	225.85	218.41	192.71	189.14	223.48					
Mar.,16	222.98	232.12	208.44	246.53	185.09	225.88	218.42	192.72	189.77	223.53					
Apr.,16	223.04	232.17	208.50	246.74	185.10	225.91	218.44	192.81	189.27	223.57					
May,16	219.62	227.07	207.77	246.77	182.71	225.81	218.45	192.95	189.37	223.62					
Jun., 16	220.14	227.88	207.83	247.46	182.83	225.89	218.63	193.01	189.39	222.10					
Jul.,16	223.45	232.37	209.25	251.24	184.21	227.17	218.74	193.05	189.48	223.53					
Aug.,16	225.69	235.93	209.40	251.40	184.25	227.59	218.89	193.16	189.65	223.81					
Sep.,16	229.46	241.68	210.03	252.86	184.83	227.59	218.91	193.47	189.68	225.38					
Oct.,16	231.17	244.59	210.07	252.89	184.87	227.69	218.92	193.51	189.70	225.41					
Nov.,16	230.45	243.24	210.11	252.95	184.89	227.73	218.94	193.59	189.75	225.45					
Dec.,16	230.73	243.12	211.02	253.46	185.23	230.16	219.54	193.75	189.90	229.42					
Jan.,17	233.71	246.41	213.51	253.60	190.08	230.88	219.56	193.82	199.76	228.79					

Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: URBAN** 

(Base: 2005-06 = 100)

		Index by expenditure group											
Period	General Index	1. Food & Beverage	2. Non-Food	I. Clothing & Footwear	II. Fuel & Lighting	III. Household Equipment	IV. Medical Care & Health Expense	V. Transport & Communication	VI. Recreation, Entertainment	VII. Misc. Goods & Services			
2011-12	164.52	183.71	147.84	153.65	139.88	186.54	145.37	146.34	129.61	159.31			
2012-13	177.71	195.91	161.88	170.39	153.55	211.03	151.15	157.53	139.06	176.96			
2013-14	191.73	214.85	171.61	183.66	162.80	221.11	155.82	168.52	147.83	186.37			
2014-15	204.76	230.56	182.32	197.93	172.33	223.53	169.80	190.26	150.95	194.16			
2015-16	219.31	245.66	196.39	216.50	186.86	236.67	180.93	215.50	152.84	199.87			
Jan.,16	223.09	247.55	201.81	219.54	196.96	239.55	183.12	221.17	153.01	200.62			
Feb.,16	223.06	247.41	201.87	219.59	196.97	239.53	183.30	221.29	153.05	200.81			
Mar.,16	223.75	248.85	201.91	219.63	196.99	239.62	183.34	221.35	153.07	200.88			
Apr.,16	223.98	249.28	201.97	219.69	196.99	239.87	183.35	221.47	153.10	200.94			
May,16	221.12	243.55	201.60	219.73	196.68	239.89	183.38	219.96	153.11	200.48			
Jun., 16	221.85	245.04	201.67	219.92	196.71	240.05	183.40	220.06	153.14	200.51			
Jul.,16	225.38	250.65	203.41	222.71	197.18	243.10	183.94	223.24	154.31	203.86			
Aug.,16	228.18	256.42	203.62	222.96	197.22	244.22	184.14	223.44	154.37	204.01			
Sep.,16	231.76	263.01	204.58	223.83	197.32	245.30	184.87	226.78	154.43	205.80			
Oct.,16	232.91	265.39	204.66	223.85	197.33	245.72	184.93	226.94	154.49	205.83			
Nov.,16	232.52	264.45	204.74	223.92	197.38	245.88	185.00	227.07	154.52	205.99			
Dec.,16	233.01	264.36	205.75	224.55	197.39	247.75	185.07	231.29	154.57	207.32			
Jan.,17	235.51	265.16	209.71	224.95	204.83	248.41	185.24	232.33	163.25	207.40			

Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

# WAGE RATE INDEX BY SECTORS: BANGLADESH

(Base: 2010-11=100)

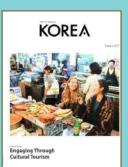
Sector	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	Nov., 16	Dec., 16	Jan., 17
General	112.62	118.82	124.69	132.81	140.85	141.28	142.37
Percentage change (Point to Point) Percentage change (over previous month)	6.01	5.50	4.94	6.52	6.41 0.75	6.56 0.31	6.65 0.77
1. Agriculture	112.08	118.44	124.51	132.48	140.77	141.01	142.13
Percentage change (Point to Point) Percentage change(over previous month)	5.78	5.68	5.12	6.41	6.49 0.92	6.57 0.17	6.70 0.79
i) Agriculture	112.08	118.40	124.46	132.44	140.74	140.97	142.09
Percentage change (Point to Point) Percentage change(over previous month)	5.76	5.64	5.12	6.42	6.50 0.93	6.57 0.16	6.70 0.79
ii) Fish	111.89	120.81	126.85	134.59	142.30	143.34	144.41
Percentage change (Point to Point) Percentage change(over previous month)	6.55	7.97	5.00	6.12	6.11 0.81	6.86 0.73	6.80 0.75
2. Industry	113.43	119.07	124.38	132.02	139.38	140.06	141.03
Percentage change (Point to Point) Percentage change(over previous month)	6.08	4.97	4.47	6.16	6.23 0.47	6.36 0.49	6.46 0.69
i) Construction	114.70	119.93	124.84	129.97	136.48	137.15	138.11
Percentage change (Point to Point) Percentage change(over previous month)	6.87	4.56	4.09	4.18	5.43 0.41	5.61 0.49	5.86 0.70
ii) Production	111.53	121.86	127.28	136.18	145.25	145.95	146.93
Percentage change (Point to Point) Percentage change(over previous month)	5.19	9.27	4.44	7.70	7.77 0.57	7.82 0.48	7.62 0.67
3. Service	113.63	120.16	126.15	136.03	144.25	145.11	146.26
Percentage change (Point to Point) Percentage change(over previous month)	6.96	5.75	4.98	7.86	6.36 0.52	6.91 0.60	6.77 0.79

Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

# **ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

The Chamber thankfully received the following publications:























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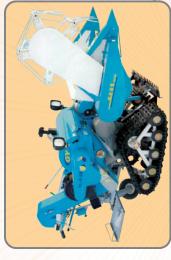




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# बाज अ गड़ा का जाना अध्यक्षि अस्त्राज्ञ









\(\oldsymbol\) প্রযুক্তির ধান/গম কাটার যন্ত্র

সরাসরি ভিয়েতনাম থেকে আমদানীকৃত

সরাসরি চীন থেকে আমদানীকৃত

যে কোন জমিব জন্য উপযোগী ১.৫ ফুট পানিতেও কাজ করে

সহজে পরিবহন যো

এই মেশিন ব্যবহারে খরচ সাশ্রয় হবে ৮৭%

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এক মৌসুমেই মূলধন ফেরত



কশ্বাইন হার্ডেস্টার

ধান/গম কাটার যন্ত্র

সরাসরি কোরিয়া থেকে আমদানীকৃত

খড়ের কোন ক্ষতি হয় না অল্প কাঁদা পানিতে কাজ করে

পরিবহন যোগ্য

বারিশাল ০১৭৩০০২৮৫৭৮; চরফ্যাশন ০১৭৫৫৫৮২৬২৬; ফরিদপুর ০১৭৬০০২৪২৭১; যদোর ০১৭৬০০২৪৪৮৪। পঞ্চগড় ০১৭৫৫৫৮২৬৩১; ঠাকুরগাঁও ০১৭৫৫৫৮২৬২১; সেতাবগঞ্জ ০১৭৩০০২৪৩৬১; দিনাজপুর ০১৭৫৫৫৫১২০৪; নীলফামারী ০১৭১৪১৬৩২৫৮; রংপুর ০১৭১৪১৬৩২০০; নওগাঁ ০১৭৩০০২৮৫৭২; বজ্ডা ০১৭৩০০২৮৫৭৭; রাজশাহী ০১৭৫৫৫৮২৬২৯; কুষ্টিয়া ০১৭৫৫৫৮২৬০২; ঢাকা ০১৭৩০০১৫৮০৩; ময়মনসিংহ ০১৭১৪১৬৩১৩২; কিশোরগঞ্জ ০১৭৫৫৫৮২৬২০; সিলেট ০১৭৩০০১৫৮১৬; হবিগঞ্জ ০১৭৩০০১৫৮১৯; কুমিল্লা ০১৭১৪১৬৩১৮৫; চট্টগ্রাম ০১৭৩০০২৮৫৭৫; নেয়াখালী ০১৭৫৫৬০৮৪৯০;



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# A Brief Profile of MCCI, Dhaka

Founded in 1904, the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka (MCCI) is the oldest and the pre-eminent trade organization of Bangladesh. membership roll encompasses leading commercial and large industrial organizations of the country, including public sector corporations and local as well as multinational companies. Presently, almost all major enterprises of the manufacturing and service sector are among its members. The Chamber provides a wide range of professional services to its members.

The Chamber's services, developed over a long period, are comprehensive and cover specialized areas such as taxation. import-export, tariff and non-tariff measures, investment, WTO matters and other national and international economic and commercial concerns. The Chamber maintains a secretariat manned professional staff. It offers secretarial services to the Bangladesh Employers' Federation (BEF), the lone national level organization of employers in the country with industrial dealing relations. occupational safety and health, workplace cooperation, skills development, labor law and other labor-related issues.

The Chamber's policy recommendations and inputs related to ongoing reforms have gained wide acceptance amongst government and policy makers. MCCI has earned recognition at home and abroad by offering services such as issuina certificate of origin, through conducting economic research and sector surveys, offering trade and investment facilitation services, legal services, information management and dissemination, and with publications related to trade and commerce.

The Chamber is represented in many Advisory Councils as well as Committees formed by various ministries of the government of Bangladesh. MCCI also maintains effective working relations with development partners, e.g., the World Bank Group, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Asia Foundation. MCCI has a long history of joint collaboration and corporate understanding. It interacts regularly with major international trade many private bodies and organizations located all over the world.