





CALORIE

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

- ডায়াবেটিক রোগীদের জন্য চিনির সেরা বিকল্প জিরোক্যাল
 - গর্ভবতী মহিলা, শিশু ও বয়োবৃদ্ধ-সহ সবার জন্য নিরাপদ
- একটি স্যান্শে 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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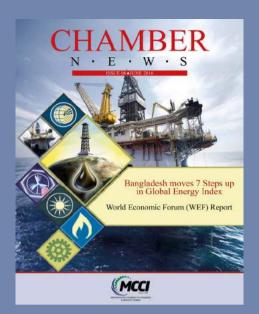
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EDITORIAL

Bangladesh moves 7 Steps up in Global Energy Index: World Economic Forum (WEF) Report

03

ARTICLE Why People Buy	05
NATIONAL NEWS	07
CORPORATE NEWS	10
INTERNATIONAL NEWS	12
REVIEW Foreign trade	25
Export earnings	
Import payments	
Exchange rate movements	

STATISTICS

Stock market

Major economic indicators-Bangladesh Export performance of Bangladesh Value of letters of credit opened for import

Production of selected industrial items

Consumer Price Index : National Consumer Price Index : Rural Consumer Price Index : Urban

Wage Rate Index By Sectors: Bangladesh

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

CONTENTS

CHAMBER NEWS | ISSUE- 06

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Injectable vision correction device



JUNE 2016

NEW PRODUCTS

Woollip Travel Pillow turns tray tables to beds



COUNTRY PROFILE

Thailand



MEMBER PROFILE

(HSBC)

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION LIMITED

MEMBERS NEWS

AB Bank signs Mou with AGWEB



CHAMBER EVENTS

Budget 2016-2017: Our Expectations



28

EDITORIAL

Bangladesh moves 7 Steps up in Global Energy Index: World Economic Forum (WEF) Report

angladesh has moved up 7 places in the latest Energy Architecture Performance Index (EAPI) report. Prepared and released by the Geneva-based World Economic Forum (WEF), the EAPI 2016 report puts Bangladesh in the 106th position, which is seven notches up from the 113th position of the EAPI 2015. Besides the improvement in ranking, Bangladesh has also achieved higher overall score for better energy management towards economic growth and development, environmental sustainability, and energy access and security.

It is worth mentioning that since 2013 the EAPI has been ranking some randomly selected countries, on the basis of their ability to provide secure, sustainable, and affordable energy. The EAPI as a tool helps in better understanding the energy systems. It helps to identify strengths and weaknesses of the different countries covered in the report. The EAPI 2016 benchmarked a total of 126 countries, based on 18 indicators that covered energy security and access, sustainability, and contribution to economic growth and development.

An interesting revelation of the EAPI 2016 report is the relatively weak performance of some of the largest economies as far as achieving balanced high performance in their energy systems is concerned. Out of the 12 largest countries, only France (4th) has been successful in entering the list of the top 10, while others have markedly fallen behind. The top position was clinched by Switzerland with 0.79 points, followed by Norway (0.78 points). Three European countries, namely Sweden, France, and Denmark, were ranked 3, 4, and 5, each scoring the same 0.76 points. Bahrain came last in the list, with a paltry

score of 0.36. In addition to Bahrain, the bottom five included Lebanon (0.43), Yemen Republic (0.44), Haiti (0.44) and Ethiopia (0.44). Some surprise rankings like that of Albania (17th) and Paraguay (21st) reflect the unexpected variability in strengths among the countries in the list. These two countries fully reaped the benefits of complete de-carbonized electricity generation by getting a major boost in their environmental sustainability scores. The EAPI also showed that diversification to new energy sources has its disadvantages, and the new risks and opportunities associated with it would require sufficient market change and government mechanisms in order to ensure the security of supply and access.

The improvement of Bangladesh is evident in all three major areas – the score of economic growth and development rose from 0.52 to 0.63, while that of environmental sustainability increased from 0.39 to 0.44, and the score of energy access and security rose from 0.44 to 0.45. The total score also progressed to 0.50 from the last year's 0.45. However, in spite of all these improvements,

Bangladesh has managed to outperform just Nepal (115th) among the South Asian countries, trailing behind Pakistan (103rd), India (90th), and Sri Lanka (54th). Government would, therefore, need to be more pro-active about dealing with the changing dynamics of the energy sector

Bangladesh's challenge lies in ensuring energy to generate power. The country has come a long way from the relatively meager 3,000 megawatt(MW) electricity that it was producing back in 2009 to the current level of 12,300 MW (including 600 MW imported from India). Currently, large scale coal-based power plants are also being implemented in addition to the 300 MW oil-based power plants that are under implementation in the private sector. The government has selected three entrepreneurs who would be setting up 470 MW furnace oil based power plants in Chittagong. However, the contracts are yet to be signed. Although some gas-based power plants have already started generation, the challenge here is that of the availability of sufficient amount of gas that will be needed for the purpose. Gas supply now remains limited to 1,100 million cubic feet per day (MMCFD), which is significantly lower than the required 1,400 MMCFD. As a result of this deficit, industries having 2,200 MW gas-based capacities could not generate power up to the expected level. It is clear that there is a lot of room for improvement in this sector. The government faces the uphill task of implementing the 2010 Power Sector Master Plan (PSMP). Only its successful implementation would help solve the perennial power crises and improve the scenario.

The positives that can be deduced from Bangladesh's current power sector scenario are the official estimates and predictions of future generation. For example, the government estimates that 1,700 MW of power would be added to the national grid during 2016 (some of which has already been added). The estimates also predict additions of 2,300 MW during 2017, and 3,000 MW during both 2018 and 2019. According to this plan, the country's power generation capacity would increase to 24,000 MW by 2021. Much of this increase will depend on how much of the predicted increase will come from gas-based power plants that are expected to be commissioned by then. In fact, the shortfall in gas supply would pose a major threat to this target achievement. Moreover, according to an anonymous BPDB source, no study has been done to calculate the future power price if the government wanted to generate power from the plants run with imported LNG. The prospect of coal-based power plants to fully become operational in 2019 is also doubtful, and it would be surprising to find coal-based power plants working in full flow before 2020-21. After that year, both coal and nuclear power plants would start coming into production one after another. One may therefore rightly predict that owing to a lack of primary energy supply, the power shortage in the country will increase in the next 3-4 years.

Providing new connections also hinders the improvement of the power scenario, which boils down to the shortage in the supply of primary energy. The situation would worsen if the present trend of providing new connections continues. The solution would be either load-shedding or setting up more oil-based plants to maintain the present level of power production and consumption. The government hence is considering increasing the oil-based power generation



to 5,000 MW. Following this method will obviously come with a cost. What the country needs to do now is to focus on alternative sources of power. Bangladesh will be signing an agreement with India to initiate a liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) handling plant in Chittagong. About a half (50%) of the LPG produced will be provided to Tripura, while the other half will be available for Dhaka.

An important objective of the Bangladesh PSMP is to establish the power system portfolio by fuel diversification. The target fuel composition ratio by 2030 is: coal 50%, natural gas 25%, and others 25%. The current mix on the other hand is: coal 2%, natural gas 62%, and others 36%. This is nowhere near the targeted mix. Two of the critical fronts where Bangladesh will be facing challenges in the future are that (1) Petrobangla would not be able to supply the planned 1500 MMCFD+ gas for power generation, and (2) gas production might start declining after 2019. A new crisis would be created in power generation as a result. Experts have been repeatedly urging the government to secure energy first till 2041 and simultaneously start work on developing coal and LNG import infrastructure with the priority generally given during war time. Suggestions have also appeared for mining own coal besides making efforts to bring in a few

oil-based rental power plants. It would be possible to mine own coal and start power generation by 2020 if the process could be started right now without any delay.

The EAPI 2016 also reveals that diversification to new energy sources creates new risks and opportunities that would require significant market change and government mechanisms to ensure security of supply and access. The report suggests that governments should be receptive of new opportunities and risks to energy security resulting from developments in the energy sector as well as in international landscapes. It says that governments should ultimately take responsibility for ensuring energy security in the short and the long term. However, the report also stresses the critical role the companies will need to play to ensure secure supplies of energy and to reap the benefits of the latest technologies. Active collaboration between operators, policy makers, and national and international entities is also important in tackling new challenges, the report says. A lesson Bangladesh can derive from the report is that it has to proactively work in this dynamic environment and work towards achieving its own energy efficiency with stricter measures of implementations and target achievement.

WHY PEOPLE BUY

By John Mehrmann

here are many reasons customers decide to spend their hard earned money to make a purchase, but do you know why they decided to spend it with you?

There are many reasons customers decide to spend their hard earned money to make a purchase, but do you know why they decided to spend it with you? When selling products or services, it is important to understand why people buy. Marketing, sales, operational infrastructure, and customer service should be crafted with the consumer purchasing perspective in mind.

First, we need to distinguish between why people buy, and why people buy from you. Typically, consumers make a decision to buy, before making the decision on which one to buy, or who will get the sale. Most organizations continually refine the process of studying consumer demographics to understand position in comparison to the competition. In other words, the organizations study why a consumer will buy from them, as opposed to the competition. Design, features, marketing messages, and sales plans are organized to differentiate from the current competition. To take a step ahead of the competition, focus first on the fundamental moment of truth, the point at which the consumer makes the decision that an investment or purchase is worthwhile. Before you can answer the question of "why you", you must first answer the question, "why buy"?

Prestige, Luxury, and Style

Some purchases are based on luxury, style, and prestige. This applies to products from watches to cars, and collectors items to homes. It is easy to see examples of jewelry, watches, and other personal items as purchases based on prestige. Jewelry and watches can be a personal



expression of style, achievement, a gift from a loved one, or the result of a special occasion. Some cars are purchased to accommodate a family, or to get better gas mileage. Some cars are purchased to make a statement, to convey status, or as an investment to show credibility and confidence. When the commitment is made to invest in an expensive timepiece, a luxury automobile, or prestigious real estate property, the decision to buy is typically based with this intent, well before there is a decision on who to buy it from.

Quality, Reliability, Durability, or Reputation

The decision to buy based on quality, durability, reliability, or reputation is often preceded by an experience that raises this as a concern. These considerations may also apply in the decision process for items like watches and cars, but typically not for the same consumers. Therefore, it may be necessary to understand the intent of the consumers in the market to which you are selling. While BMW and Mercedes have reputations for quality, reliability, and durability, the 'ultimate driving machine' is recognizably more a statement of luxury performance than a reassurance to avoid roadside assistance.

There is much more focus on durability in the Home Appliance market, for example. The lonely Maytag Repair Man is not trying to convince you that he represents a stylish washing machine, he is reassuring you that his brand is built to last. Once the decision is made to invest in a new washing machine, there are many selections with a wide variety of

features. There is opportunity to upgrade for conveniences, for appearance, and for style. However, selections based on appearance are typically made after the consumer has already limited the playing field to a finite number of brands with a reputation for durability. Even the selection of brand is made after the decision that it is necessary to replace a home appliance, typically because the existing item is no longer reliable or must be replaced. Unlike a watch or jewelry, it is not very common for appliances to be replaced as a fashion statement.

Save Time or Money



Sometimes the consumer compelling reason to buy is based on the opportunity to save time or money. This can be just as pertinent to business and commercial sales as it is to individual consumer sales. Saving time, or making more effective use of time, can often be quantified in quality and monetary terms. There is also opportunity to save money by investing in energy conserving devices. Quite often, reducing expense or conserving time are not the catalyst to start the process of thinking about the buying decision, but rather contribute to the timing of the buying cycle. When confronted by a potential need to buy, the opportunity to save time or reduce cost can be compelling motivation to take action.



Sales, Marketing, and the Web



Once you have identified the contributing factors that compel consumers to make a purchase in your market, then it is time to reflect on your message and how you will reach out to those consumers. Your message of 'why people should buy from you', should be framed in the context of this moment of truth, the moment that consumers make the decision to buy. This is a distinctly different direction than beginning your planning based on what you have to offer and want to promote from your own features and benefits. On the contrary, begin with the perspective of that precise moment in time that your prospective consumers flip the mental and emotional switch to relinquish monetary funds for the products or services in your market. What are your customers feeling and thinking about at that precise moment? Your marketing and sales messages should be empathic to that moment of truth, and to those customers. If you are struggling to identify that moment of truth, talk to your current customers and find out why they made a decision to change or buy.

Design your web site to welcome consumers at the moment of truth, and to give them your compelling and empathetic reason to buy. Your messages and images should be based on what the customer is looking for in a provider of goods or services. Your web site is not a place to shout your features to the heavens and hope that customers will be hypnotized by your exotic and unique advantages compared to your competition. On the contrary, if the message on your web site clearly identifies customer needs at the moment of truth, then your competition becomes irrelevant. Use your web site and your marketing materials to identify with your customers and create a relationship through demonstrating awareness, compassion, and commitment to that pivotal moment in the purchase process.

Beyond Sales



It is more than marketing messages, web sites, and sales. The awareness, compassion, and commitment to your clients must resound in every aspect of your organization and delivery. Whether you are providing goods or services, the manner in which support and customer service is delivered to the individual consumer must be consistent with the message conveyed before the sale.

If the message before the sale is based on luxury and prestige, then rest assured that your clients are expecting to be treated with luxury and prestige after the sale. The operational functions and customer service must be designed to deliver exceptional personalized treatment and consideration.

If the message before the sale is based on quality, durability, and reliability, then service after the sale is expected to live up to the same merits. It is inevitable that some products or services may experience unexpected failure or defect. The response to defects in material or workmanship should be as reliable as the product is purported to be, and should mirror the same standards of quality. The quality of customer service has much longer lasting impact on a reputation for customer service than any marketing message or brochure. Quality customer service and operational expertise can be the foundation of a reputation for reliability, and the backbone of integrity

with existing and future customers. Reliable service is a compelling reason to buy.

Beyond These Examples



These are just a few examples of compelling reasons that consumers decide to buy. The purchase of services may be predicated on product failure, a convenience to replace personal workload, or a strategic decision to outsource a business function. A business decision to buy may be based on periodic timing to implement changes, end of lease, or financial stimulus. There are many scenarios, but it is important to understand the perspective of your customers and the reasons that they buy. There may be multiple contributing factors, and it may be necessary to prepare several different messages to accommodate the different perspectives. Find the most common reasons that your consumers decide to buy, and then work on your marketing, sales, and customer service delivery to match that moment of truth

Words of Wisdom

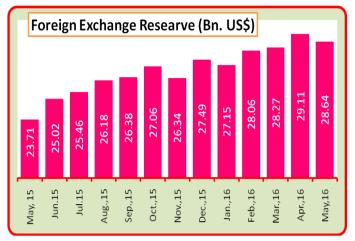
"Normal is getting dressed in clothes that you buy for work and driving through traffic in a car that you are still paying for - in order to get to the job you need to pay for the clothes and the car, and the house you leave vacant all day so you can afford to live in it." - Ellen Goodman.

Source:businessknowhow.com

NATIONAL NEWS

Foreign exchange reserve hits US\$ 29.13 billion

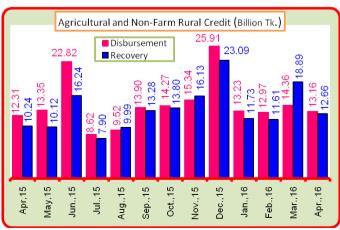
The country's foreign currency reserves at the Bangladesh Bank increased by \$4.93 billion or 20.79 percent to \$28.64 billion on 25 May 2016 from \$23.71 billion in May 2015.



Source: Bangladesh Bank

Agricultural credit disbursement rises by 13.94%

Agricultural credit (including non-farm rural credit) disbursed by banks during July-April 2015-16 amounted to a provisional Tk.141.28 billion as compared to Tk.123.99 billion during July-April 2014-15, showing a rise of Tk.17.29 billion or 13.94 percent. The credit disbursement achieved 86.15 percent of total target (Tk.164.00 billion) set for 2015-16. Agricultural credit disbursed by banks in April 2016 increased by Tk.0.85 billion or 6.90 percent to Tk.13.16 billion from Tk.12.31 billion in April 2015. Meanwhile, total recovery of agricultural loan during July-April 2015-16 rose by Tk.11.25 billion or 8.80 percent to Tk. 139.10 billion from Tk.127.85 billion during July-April 2014-15. Agricultural credit recovery by banks in April 2016 rose by Tk.2.42 billion or 23.63 percent to Tk.12.66 billion from Tk.10.24 billion in April 2015.



Source: Bangladesh Bank

Tk. 1054.32 billion NBR revenue collections

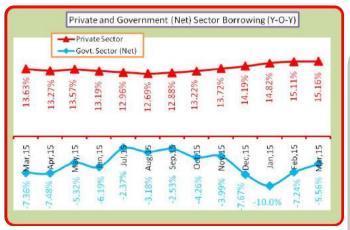
National Board of Revenue (NBR) tax revenue collection during July-March 2015-16 increased by Tk.144.72 billion or 15.91 percent to Tk.1054.32 billion against the collection of Tk.909.60 billion during July-March 2014-15. The NBR revenue collection during July-March 2015-16 achieved 59.78 percent of total revised target (Tk.1763.70 billion) for 2014-15. Meanwhile, revenue collections in March 2016 rose by Tk.15.89 billion or 12.73 percent to Tk.140.73 billion from Tk.124.84 billion in March 2015 and by Tk.26.82 billion or 23.54 percent from Tk. 113.91 billion in February 2016.

Items of Revenue	NBR Rever Bill	Growth		
nems of Revenue	July-Mar. 2015-16	July-Mar. 2014-15	(%)	
Value Added Tax	391.91	353.60	10.83	
Income Tax	324.95	283.72	14.53	
Supplementary Duties	187.69	150.82	24.45	
Import Duties	128.74	106.01	21.44	
Others	21.03	15.45	36.12	
Total	1054.32	909.60	15.91	

Source: National Board of Revenue

Private sector credit growth rises

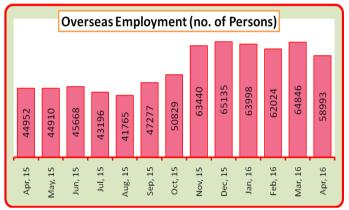
The credit growth in the private sector rose by 1.53 percentage point to 15.16 percent in March 2016 from 13.63 percent in March 2015. Meanwhile, the credit growth in the government (net) sector fell by 12.92 percentage point to -5.56 percent in March 2016 from -7.36 percent in March 2015.



Source: Bangladesh Bank

Overseas employment jumps 51.25%

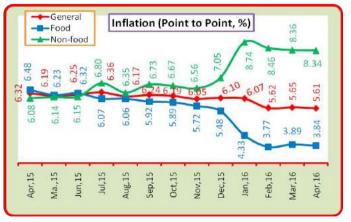
A total of 561503 Bangladeshis got foreign jobs during July-April 2015-16 compared to 371251 during July-April 2014-15, showing a rise of 190252 employees or 51.25 percent, according to the Bureau of Manpower Employment and Training (BMET). During July-April 2015-16, a total of 124701 documented workers went to Oman, 102194 to Qatar, 74740 to Saudi Arabia, 44715 to Malaysia, 41774 to Singapore, 23643 to Bahrain, 17208 to Jordan, 13134 to Kuwait, 12322 to Lebanon, 11001 to United Arab Emirates, 3959 to Brunei, 3511 to Mauritius, 1591 to South Korea, 137 to Libya and 86873 to other countries.



Source: BMET

Inflation falls to 5.61% in April 2016

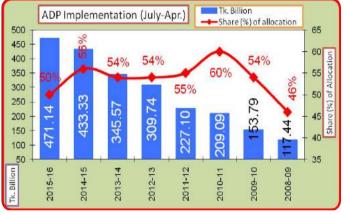
The country's general inflation on point-to-point basis (as per the base year 2005-06 =100) fell by 0.71 percentage points to 5.61 percent in April 2016 from 6.32 percent in April 2015, according to Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS). The food inflation decreased by 2.64 percentage points to 3.84 percent in April 2016 compared to 6.48 percent in April 2015. The non-food inflation rose by 2.26 percentage points to 8.34 percent in April 2016 compared to 6.08 percent in April 2015 because of a rise in house rent, transportation costs, education and medical expenses and prices of other non-food items.



Source: Bangladesh Bank

50% ADP implemented during July-April 2015-16

Implementation of Annual Development Programme (ADP) during July-April 2015-16 by all the ministries and divisions amounted to Tk.471.14 billion or 50 percent of Tk.970.00 billion under the revised ADP allocation (Except Self-Financed) outlays for 2015-16 fiscal years, according to the Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED). During the period, the highest ADP expenditure was by the Local Govt. Division which utilized Tk.98.99 billion (62 percent) from the allocated Tk.158.80 billion for 2015-16. The Power Division utilized Tk.93.26 billion (60 percent) from the allocated Tk. 155.51 billion for 2015-16, the Roads & Highway Division utilized Tk.32.87 billion (52 percent) from the allocated Tk.63.49 billion, the Ministry of Primary & Mass Education utilized Tk.29.06 billion (55 percent) from the allocated Tk.52.47 billion, the Bridges Division utilized Tk.26.04 billion (41 percent) from the allocated Tk.64.10 billion and the Ministry of Education utilized Tk.20.42 billion (48 percent) from the allocated Tk.42.80 billion.



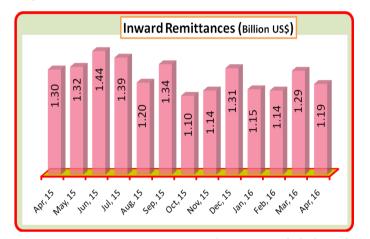
Source: IMED

\$176 million WB loan for agriculture

Under an agreement signed recently, the World Bank (WB) will provide \$176.06 million in low-cost loans to Bangladesh, under the Second National Agricultural Technology Programme, to help the country increase its agricultural productivity and create access to markets for more than one million poor farmers, particularly women. The scheme will help increase and diversify productivity of crops, livestock and fisheries, and enhance poor farmers' access to markets. The project will also enhance nutrition by ensuring food safety and more diversified food consumption. The project will be implemented in 57 districts where it will benefit small-scale farmers through stronger linkages with research, agricultural extension services, farmer groups, and on-farm demonstrations to promote improved agricultural technologies. The project will focus on training for farmers and agricultural extension field staff to ensure knowledge sharing and technology transfer.

Remittance inflow fell by 2.47% during July-April 2015-16

The inward remittances received from Bangladeshi nationals working abroad reached US\$12.25 billion during July-April 2015-16, according to Bangladesh Bank. The remittance fell by \$0.31 billion or 2.47 percent from \$12.56 million received during July-April 2014-15. During July-April 2015-16, \$2466.15 million remittance were received from Saudi Arabia, \$2213.77 million from the United Arab Emirates, \$2038.89 million from U.S.A., \$1091.74 million from Malaysia, \$846.18 million from Kuwait, \$740.73 million from Oman, \$686.82 million from U.K., \$413.25 million from Bahrain, \$338.03 million from Qatar, \$315.50 million from Singapore, \$271.69 million from Italy and \$828.08 million from other countries.



Source: Bangladesh Bank

ECNEC clears Padma rail, road projects

The government recently approved two projects for linking the Padma Bridge with the capital city through road and railway at a combine cost of Tk 412.41 billion. The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) approved both the projects along with seven others at its meeting. The Bangladesh Railway (BR) will set up the 172-kilometre Dhaka-Mawa-Bhanga-Jessore broad-gauge railway line by 2021 linking the under-construction Padma Bridge. The project will cost Tk 349.89 billion. Besides, the Bangladesh Army will upgrade the 53-kilometre Dhaka-Mawa and Pacchor-Bhanga road at a cost of Tk 62.52 billion.

Japan to give \$3.5 million more for human resource development

Japan has struck another deal to give Bangladesh about \$3.5 million or 393 million yen in another grant-in-aid for human resource development. With this grant, government officials will be sent to Japan for higher and improved studies to enhance their skills, which they will use for the development of different

sectors after returning. The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship was launched in 2002. Japan provides grant for this project every year.

Furniture, plastic products to receive cash subsidy

The government has included two more exportable products in its cash subsidy list for the ongoing fiscal year (FY) 2015-16. Cash subsidy for the two exportable products--furniture and plastic products --has been fixed at 15 per cent and 10 per cent respectively, according to a notification issued by the Bangladesh Bank (BB). The government earlier announced a list of 14 exportable products that are eligible for receiving cash subsidy in the FY 16.

IPO quota for affected investors extended

The government has extended the timeframe of IPO (initial public offerings) quota for the investors who were affected during 2010-11 stock market debacle, for one year more. According to the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC), the ministry of finance (MoF) extended the timeframe till June 30, 2017 from June 30, 2016. Small investors, who were affected during 2010-11 stock market debacle, are availing 20 per cent quota under the capital market refinancing scheme. Apart from 20 per cent quota for affected investors, 10 per cent quota is preserved for mutual funds and 10 per cent for non-resident Bangladeshis (NRBs) in the IPOs.

131.948 million active mobile phone users in the country

The number of active mobile phone users in the country reached 131.948 million at the end of April, 2016, according to the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC). Of the mobile operators, Grameenphone had 56.950 million subscribers, while Banglalink had 32.148 million, Robi 27.614 million, Airtel 10.103 million, Teletalk 4.365 million and Citycell 0.768 million at the end of month.

(Figures in million)

Operators	Subscribers in March, 2016	Subscribers in April, 2016	Increase(+), decrease(-)
Grameenphone	56.285	56.950	+0.665
Banglalink	31.932	32.148	+0.216
Robi	27.450	27.614	+0.164
Airtel	10.161	10.103	-0.058
Teletalk	4.254	4.365	+0.111
Citycell	0.799	0.768	-0.031
Total	130.881	131.948	+1.067

Source: BTRC

CORPORATE NEWS



Beximco Limited reported net profit after tax of Tk 716.56 million, earnings per share (EPS) of Tk 1.04, net asset value (NAV) per share of Tk 72.36 and net operating cash flow per share (NOCFPS) of Tk (5.02) for the year ended on December 31, 2015 as against Tk 641.23 million, Tk 0.93, Tk 82.30 and Tk (4.81) respectively for the year ended on December 31, 2014. The board of directors of the company recently recommended 15 per cent stock dividend for the year ended on December 31, 2015.



The board of directors of Dhaka Bank Limited recommended 6% cash and 10% stock dividend for the year ended on 31December, 2015. The bank also reported consolidated EPS of Tk. 2.42, consolidated NAV per share of Tk. 21.89 and consolidated NOCFPS of Tk. (1.11) for the year ended on 31December, 2015 as against Tk. 3.36, Tk. 20.74 and Tk. 2.05 for the year ended on 31December 2014.



GPH ispat ltd is going to set up a highly sophisticated technology-based steel plant in Kumira of Sitakunda of Chittagong shortly. The company has recently signed a contract with Austrian Primetal Technologies GmBH to set up the new plant which, if installed, will be the Asia's most modern steel plant. The plant will produce 840,000 metric tons of billet and 640,000 metric tons of rebar and sections and the local buyers will get these global quality products at a comparatively cheaper rate. This new technology based steel plant will use comparatively low quantity of gas and electricity and hence save fuel cost. At least 10,000 people will get direct or indirect job in the plant and the government will get revenue worth Tk 2.26 billion a year.



City Bank Capital Resources Limited recently arranged a commercial paper worth Tk 700 million for Envoy Textiles Limited. The investors to the instrument are Pubali Bank Limited, Prime Bank Limited, and Industrial Promotion and Development Company of Bangladesh Limited (IPDC). Envoy Textiles Limited, a concern of the Envoy Group, is one of the leading companies in the textiles sector, manufacturing high-quality denim fabrics for reputed clients across the globe. Over the years, the company has grown to become the largest denim producing unit in Bangladesh, with an annual turnover of Tk 5.47 billion.

BRAC BANK

The board of directors of Brac Bank Limited recently recommended 25 per cent cash dividend for the year ended on December 31, 2015. The bank also reported consolidated earnings per share (EPS) of Tk 3.08, consolidated net asset value (NAV) per share of Tk 27.14 and consolidated net operating cash flow per share (NOCFPS) of Tk 13.64 for the year ended on December 31, 2015 as against Tk 3.28, Tk 28.47 and Tk (4.11) respectively for the year ended on December 31, 2014.



The board of directors of Bay Leasing & Investment Limited recommended 15% cash dividend for the year ended on December 31, 2015. The company also reported consolidated net profit after tax of Tk. 95.93 million, consolidated EPS of Tk. 0.73, consolidated NAV per share of Tk. 20.91 and consolidated NOCFPS of Tk. (2.91) for the year ended on December 31, 2015.



Linde Bangladesh Ltd, a member of The Linde Group's Gases Division, started construction of its Tk 1.2 billion (14.6 million Euro) air separation unit (ASU) in Rupganj. Once completed in 2017, the Rupganj plant would produce approximately 100 tonnes per day of liquefied gases, making it the largest liquid producing ASU in Bangladesh. Linde will design, build and manage the Rupganj plant using state-of-the art energy efficient technology. It will provide liquefied gases supply and related solutions to Bangladesh's growing healthcare, food and beverage, fabrication, pharmaceutical, shipbuilding and ship recycling industries.

SINGER® AT HOME WORLDWIDE

Singer Bangladesh reported that its turnover in the first quarter (Q1) that ended March 31, 2016 amounted to Tk1.4 billion, which is 27.7 per cent higher than that of previous year. In the same quarter, the gross margins increased 30.4 per cent from 25.6 per cent in the prior year. Singer also focused on managing operating expenses which reduced to 22.6 per cent of turnover versus 24.1 per cent in the prior year. The net interest costs were lower at Tk 14.5 million compared to Tk 21.5 million in 2015. The combined impact of the improved trading environment and various management initiatives resulted in profit after tax of Tk 61.4 million, a significant improvement compared to the prior year.



Olympic Industries, a food and allied sector company, recently decided to set-up a new line for producing new premium varieties of cookies. The board of directors of the company decided to set-up the line at an estimated cost of Tk 133 million to be jointly funded with cash and bank financing, to produce new premium varieties of cookies. The new line will have an estimated annual production capacity of 7,200 tonnes. Olympic Industries, which was listed on the Dhaka bourse in 1989, also reported un-audited earning per share (EPS) of Tk 2.27 for third quarter (January-March, 2016) as against Tk 1.35 for January-March, 2015. The sponsor-directors own 31.51 per cent stake in the company, while institutional investors own 20.49 per cent, foreign investors 36.13 per cent and general public 11.87 per cent as on March 30, 2016. The company's paid-up capital is Tk 1,904.18 million and authorized capital is Tk 2,000 million, while total number of securities is 190,417,987.



Renata Limited reported that its consolidated net profit in 2015 amounted to Tk.2081.18 million compared to Tk. 1715.47 million in 2014. Consolidated earnings per share (EPS) was Tk.39.21 against Tk 31.87 in 2014, while consolidated net asset value (NAV) per share was Tk. 183.50 compared to Tk.181.04 in 2014. The company's consolidated net operating cash flow per share (NOCFPS) in 2015 was Tk.37.48 against Tk 39.75 in 2014. Meanwhile the board of directors of Renata Limited recommended 85% cash dividend and 15% stock dividend for 2015.

Feel safe with Xtreme Inside

BSRM Steel Mills Ltd. inked Interest Rate Swap (IRS) with Standard Chartered Bank to hedge its US Dollar interest rate risk. The landmark transaction was structured to help BSRM hedge floating interest rate risk inherent from borrowing in US Dollars. Through this derivative instrument, BSRM has effectively locked its floating rate liability for 5 years to take advantage of the low dollar yield curve. With the recent hike in USD Libor rates, this measure will also enable BSRM to have better visibility in cash flows and prudent balance sheet management.



Peoples Insurance Company Limited reported that its net profit in 2015 amounted to Tk. 144.44 million compared to Tk. 176.61 million in 2014. The company's earnings per share (EPS) was Tk.1.82 against Tk 2.09 in 2014, while net asset value (NAV) per share was Tk. 22.85 compared to Tk. 22.33 in 2014. The company's net operating cash flow per share (NOCFPS) in 2015 was Tk. 2.84 against Tk. 2.58 in 2014. Meanwhile the board of directors of the company recommended 10% cash dividend for 2015.



The board of directors of Confidence Cement Limited recently recommended 27.50% cash dividend for 2015. The company also reported earnings per share (EPS) of Tk7.25 in 2015 against Tk4.85 (restated) in 2014, while net asset value (NAV) per share was Tk.68.95 compared to Tk.63.66 in 2014. The company's net operating cash flow per share (NOCFPS) in 2015 was Tk.9.02 against Tk. 2.72(restated) in 2014.



PRAGATI LIFE

TRUST US FOR LIFE INSURANCE LIMITED

The board of directors of Pragati Insurance Limited recommended 10% cash dividend for the year ended on 31December, 2015. The company also reported EPS after tax of Tk. 1.74, NAV per share of Tk.51.85 and NOCFPS of Tk0.20 for the year ended on 31December, 2015.



The board of directors of Agrani Insurance Limited recommended 5% cash and 5% stock dividend for the year ended on 31December, 2015. The company also reported EPS of Tk. 1.94, NAV per share of Tk.16.50 and NOCFPS of Tk. 1.38 for the year ended on 31December, 2015 as against Tk. 1.84, Tk. 15.56 and Tk. 0.43 for the year ended on 31December 2014.

ACI Formulations Ltd.

The board of directors of ACI Formulations Limited recommended 35% cash dividend for the year ended on 31December, 2015. The company also reported consolidated EPS of Tk. 5.06, consolidated NAV per share of Tk. 52.02 and consolidated NOCFPS of Tk. 5.15 for the year ended on 31December, 2015 compared to Tk. 4.14, Tk. 40.10 and Tk. 0.26 respectively for the year ended on 31December 2014.



The board of directors of Shahjalal Islami Bank Limited recommended 13% cash dividend for the year ended on 31December, 2015. The company also reported consolidated EPS of Tk.1.79, consolidated NAV per share of Tk.16.74 and consolidated NOCFPS of Tk.7.26 for the year ended on 31December, 2015.

Eastern Bank Ltd.

Eastern Bank Limited (EBL), at the 24th Annual General Meeting (AGM), approved 20 per cent cash dividend and 15 per cent stock dividend for 2015. The bank's profit after tax increased 5.43 per cent to Tk 2,221 million in 2015. Earnings per share (EPS) of the bank increased to Tk 3.63 against Tk 3.45 in 2014. Total Assets of the bank stood at Tk 189,563 million at the end of year 2015, which is 10.13 per cent higher than that of the previous year.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Global: Spending on Halal food to grow

The worldwide spending on halal food and lifestyle products is estimated to rise by 10.8 per cent every year until 2019, creating an international industry worth US\$3.7 trillion, according to the 'Global Islamic Economy Report'. It states that the halal food sector alone is estimated to grow to US\$2.537 trillion by 2019, up from US\$795 billion in 2014, which is 21.2 per cent of global food expenditure. Witnessing the increasing demand for halal-certified food, airlines worldwide are eager to tap into this growing segment and are encouraging suppliers to develop new products and enhance their production capacities, the report said.

Sri Lanka: US\$1.5 billion IMF loan announced

The IMF has agreed a US\$1.5 billion loan for Sri Lanka in support of economic reforms aimed at reversing a two-decade decline in tax revenue and reviving growth. A staff-level agreement was reached to release US\$1.5 billion over a three-year period. The country has already announced an increase in value added tax (VAT) from 11 to 15 per cent. It has also said it will scale down tax exemptions and has promised to simplify revenue collection. The Sri Lankan government will seek to raise its tax-to-GDP ratio to 15 per cent by 2020 from the current level of 11 per cent.

Philippines: Becoming an emerging FDI powerhouse

The Philippines is becoming an emerging powerhouse in foreign direct investment (FDI). After sinking to a multiyear low in 2011, it has bounced back with four consecutive years of FDI growth, according to data collected by fDi Markets. In 2011, the Philippines was documented as the world's most disaster-hit country by the NGO Citizen's Disaster Response Center. This coincided with a five-year low in inward greenfield investment projects and a six-year low in associated capital expenditure. The

country attracted just 1.6 per cent of all such FDI targeting the Asia-Pacific region, its second-lowest year on record. Since 2011, it has recorded year-on-year growth, with project numbers increasing 118 per cent by 2015. Capital investment from inward FDI reached \$8.74 billion, a six-year high, and associated job creation tracked as 58,664 new positions — the country's highest figure recorded since fDi Markets began operations in 2003. The market share of inward Asia-Pacific FDI also grew year-on-year to a record of 4.15 per cent.

Myanmar: US\$8 billion foreign investment targeted in 2016-17

Myanmar has targeted US\$8 billion foreign investment in the present fiscal year of 2016-17, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration. The country drew US\$9.5 billion foreign investment in the last fiscal year 2015-16 which ended in March, 2016. The increased investment was due to that injected into the sectors of oil and gas, manufacturing and telecom. Myanmar received US\$1.413 billion foreign investment in 2012-13, US\$4.107 billion in 2013-14 and over US\$5 billion in 2014-15.

Pakistan: Remittances rise to \$16 billion in ten months

Overseas Pakistanis remitted US\$16.03 billion in the first ten months (July'15 to April'16) of FY16, showing a growth of 5.25% compared with US\$15.24 billion received during the same period in the preceding year, according to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP). During April 2016, the inflow of remittances amounted to \$1656.85 million, which is 3.17% lower than March 2016 and 1.02% higher than April 2015. The country wise details for the month of April 2016 show that inflows from Saudi Arabia, UAE, USA, UK, GCC countries (including Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar and Oman) and EU countries amounted to \$488.78 million, \$345.99 million, \$189.84 million, \$221.88 million, \$199.53 million and \$39.85 million respectively compared with the inflow of US \$ 519.65 million, US \$ 398.41 million, \$ 214.45 million, US \$ 186.96 million, US \$ 193.13 million and US \$ 27 million respectively in April 2015.

Major Sources	Remittance received in April 2015(US\$ million)	Remittance received in April 2016(US\$ million)
Saudi Arabia	519.65	488.78
UAE	398.41	345.99
USA	214.45	189.84
UK	186.96	221.88
GCC countries	193.13	199.53
EU	27.00	39.85

Remittances received from Norway, Switzerland, Australia, Canada, Japan and other countries during April 2016 amounted to \$170.98 million together as against \$100.49 million received in April 2015

Indonesia: US\$18 billion deals signed with South Korea

The governments of Indonesia and South Korea signed off US\$18 billion worth of business deals during Indonesian President's recent visit in Seoul. The portfolio included US\$15.8 billion investment plans from six South Korean companies, and US\$2.2 billion agreements between companies from the two Asian nations. More than 2,300 investment projects--worth US\$1.21 billion --were realized by South Korean companies in 2015, making it the fifthlargest foreign investor in Indonesia. Indonesia targets its economy to expand at 5.3 percent this year.

Malaysia: Four sectors allowed to hire foreign workers

The Malysian Cabinet is lifting the freeze on hiring foreign workers for four sectors, the country's Transport Minister said. The decision was made in light of appeals from the Malaysian manufacturing, construction, plantation and furnituremaking industries, which are facing a major shortage of workers. However, the minister said that the Cabinet was already looking to improve the system for hiring foreign workers, after which they would gradually lift the hiring freeze for other sectors too. A survey by the Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers showed that 84% of manufacturers were facing a labor shortage, with half of them claiming that they had not been able to fulfill existing orders. The survey showed 146 companies required 13,270 new workers this year to meet their business needs and replace unfit or returning workers.

Saudi Arabia: Bold vision for economic diversification

Saudi Arabia has captured the world's attention with the announcement of an ambitious agenda, called Vision 2030, aimed at overhauling the structure of its economy. The plan would reduce historical high dependence on oil by transforming how the Kingdom generates income, as well as how it spends and manages its vast resources. It is supported by detailed action plans. Vision 2030 focuses on three major areas, together with efforts to protect the most vulnerable segments of the population. First, the plan seeks to enhance the generation of non-oil revenues, by raising fees and tariffs on public services, gradually expanding the tax base (including through the introduction of a value added tax), and raising more income from a growing number of visitors to the Kingdom. Second, the authorities want to reduce spending by lowering subsidies, rationalizing the country's massive public investment program, and diverting spending on arms away from foreign purchases. Third, the Kingdom seeks to diversify its national wealth and, in the process, increase current investment income. For example, the plan would raise funds via the IPO of a small part (up to 5%) of Saudi-Aramco, the giant oil conglomerate, and invest the proceeds in a broader range of assets around the world.

South Korea: Foreign tourists spent \$1,700 on average in 2015

Foreign tourists to South Korea spent an average of about 2.03 million won (US\$1,712.5) when they visited the country last year. The result was based on a survey of 12,900 foreign tourists aged above 15, who visited South Korea in 2015, according to the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism. The 2015 figure was up \$107 from a year ago. The daily spending by tourists while they stayed here averaged about 388,000 won (US\$328.1) last year, up from US\$315.8 the previous year. About two-thirds of foreign tourists picked shopping as the most considerable factor when deciding to visit South Korea last year, according to the survey. It was trailed by Korean food with 42.8 per cent, historical remains with 27.6 per cent and fashion with 23.6 per cent.

USA: First-quarter economic growth revised higher

The US economy grew at a slightly swifter pace than initially thought in the first three months of 2016, suggesting the world's most important economy was more resilient to a bout of financialmarket volatility and a global slowdown than some feared. The economy grew at an annualized pace of 0.8 per cent in the first quarter, compared with a previous estimate of 0.5 per cent, but still slower than the 1.4 per cent pace logged in the final quarter of 2015 and a far cry from the 3.9 per cent rate notched two quarters before that, the US Commerce Department said. The upgraded assessment was the latest bit of evidence to suggest that the US economy started the year on better footing than previously thought despite concerns that a sharp drop in the price of many financial assets along with cooling growth in China, an important engine of growth for the global economy, could throw the US into a recession.

Australia: Economic growth stronger than expected

Australia's economy grew at a better-than-expected 1.1% in the first quarter of 2016, compared to the previous quarter, boosted by exports and a rise in household spending. Service-based industries also contributed to the first quarter growth, along with finance and retail trade industries. The economy has been struggling for growth since the mining boom tapered off, mainly due to slowdown in demand from one of its largest trading partner, China. On an annual basis the economy expanded 3.1% in the three months to March.

Unilever: sells soy drinks maker for US\$575 million to Coca-Cola

Coca-Cola and its Mexico-based bottling franchise Coca-Cola FEMSA have agreed to buy soy drinks maker AdeS from Unilever in a deal worth US\$575 million. Coca-Cola said the acquisition increase its "choice of nutritious and delicious products" as the company moves towards fulfilling demand for healthier, less sugary beverages. AdeS, which is known for its soy-milk and fruit-juice mixed beverages, had revenue of US\$284 million in 2015. It sold 56.2 million unit cases in the same period.

Royal Dutch Shell: another 2,200 jobs to be eliminated

Royal Dutch Shell is to cut at least another 2,200 jobs, with around 475 of those coming from its UK and Ireland oil and gas production business. Most of the 475 UK job losses will be from Shell's headquarters in Aberdeen. Some posts offshore and at the energy company's plant at Mossmorran in Fife will also be affected. The cuts are mainly due to Shell's takeover of oil and gas exploration firm BG Group and prolonged low oil prices. Shell has announced more than 10,000 job losses over the past two years.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Injectable vision correction device

Google has filed a patent for an "intra-ocular device" that would improve vision by injecting the device directly into the eyeball. According to the patent, the device would include an electronic lens contained within a fluid that would be injected into the eye to attach to the eye's lens capsule (the transparent membrane that surrounds the lens). The device would contain an array of components besides the lens, including sensors, storage, battery, and radio transceiver. After the device is injected into the eye, it will attach to the membrane, where it will communicate with its sensors and an external device to help light focus onto the retina more accurately.

Nanowire-based personal cooling unit

Firefighters entering burning buildings, athletes competing in the broiling sun and workers in foundries may eventually be able to carry their own, lightweight cooling units with them, thanks to a nanowire array that cools, according to Penn State materials researchers. The material is an improvement on previous versions of what is called electrocaloric ceramic materials, which will cool when subjected to an electric current. Whereas past materials were either too rigid, or required dangerous levels of electricity to function, the nanowire-based material can cool about 5.5°F using only 36 volts, which is safe for people. The material could one day find its way into clothing, as a substitute for the ozone depleting large-area cooling systems in use today.

Bioo Lite charges phones with photosynthesis

Instead of having to utilize 800 pieces of produce to generate a charge, a Barcelona-based company, Arkyne Technologies, wants to use a single plant. The company's product, a pot called the Bioo Lite, uses the energy generated by photosynthesis to charge smartphones. It's an idea scientists have been researching for several years. Photosynthesis is the process by which sunlight is used to turn CO2, and water into oxygen and organic compounds. Bacteria in the pot breaks up the compounds, releasing electrons that travel along nanowires. The resulting electricity powers a typical USB port, where you can plug in your phone or tablet cable.

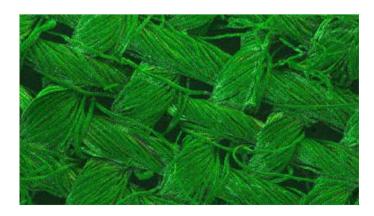
Nanotechnology self-cleaning clothes are on the way

People could soon be able to replace their washing machines with a little bit of sunshine, thanks to pioneering nanotechnology research being developed by RMIT University researchers. The researchers have been working on self-cleaning textiles, by growing nanostructures on textiles which — when exposed to light — release a burst of energy that then degrades organic matter. So sunshine, or even just a light bulb, could get rid of stains and grime. They said the next step could be antibacterial textiles that could kill superbugs.









Faster, cheaper virus detection technology

A new, quicker method of detecting viruses can deliver results within a few hours, and costs less than \$3 per sample to perform. Developed by a team from Hong Kong Polytechnic University, the new detection method replaces the conventional genetic analysis with and optical method called upconversion luminescence resonance energy transfer (LRET). This new process reduces the testing time from one to three days down to two to three hours, and also costs 80 percent less than current processes. The method can be used to detect different kinds of viruses, and can also be used more easily in the field and on-site.

Tiny Microbots clean waste waters

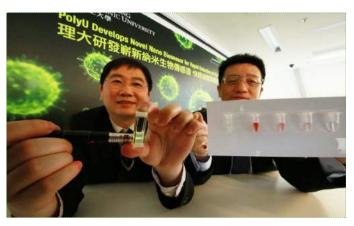
Tiny graphene-based microbots able to remove heavy metals from water could offer a new solution for cleaning industrial waste waters. Making batteries and electronic devices or mining the earth, for example, produce hazardous heavy metals such as lead, arsenic, mercury, cadmium, and chromium, all of which can get into soil and water. But some tube-shaped microbots made of graphene are getting ready to save the day. Made by a team of researchers of the Max-Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems in Stuttgart, Germany, the microbots have already demonstrated that they can remove 95 percent of the lead from polluted water in one hour. The bots — each one smaller than the width of a human hair — can be reused many times, reducing the cost of remediation.

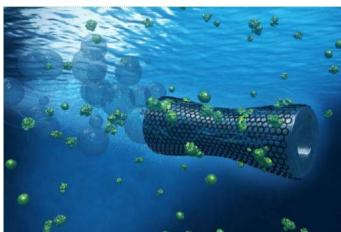
Flexible glass can bend without breaking

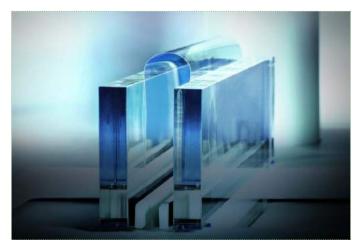
A flexible, ultrathin glass able to bend without breaking could open the door to an array of new designs, including folding tablets and phones. Created by the German glassmaker Schott, the glass is thinner than a human hair, and can be manufactured in sheets one kilometer longs. Although the glass won't fold yet—though the developers believe that innovation is right around the corner—it can flex like plastic and can support electronics. The glass has been made stronger using an ion exchange technique, which replaces the smaller sodium ions with potassium ions, resulting in compression within the glass—"the more it is squeezed, the stronger it gets."

Use your arm as a smart watch touch pad

Rather than playing games like Angry Birds by swiping your finger across a touch screen, you may someday be able to do so by swiping your finger across your arm. Some researchers at Carnegie Mellon University are making this possible through a project called SkinTrack. You'd wear a ring on your index finger that emits an electrical signal that can be picked up by an electrode-laden smart watch on your other arm. Wearable gadgets like smart watches can be hard to interact with because they tend to have tiny displays. So the researchers figured that using your skin—specifically your wrist and hand—as a touch pad could make it easier to do things like navigate maps, make calls, or play games.









NEW PRODUCTS

WOOLLIP TRAVEL PILLOW TURNS
TRAY TABLES TO BEDS



Trying to find a comfortable position in which to sleep when on a plane can be an exercise in futility. You could try folding your arms and resting on a tray table, but then a lack of available space will likely keep you from napping. The inflatable Woollip travel pillow breathes new life into these age-old problems. Inspired by lean-forward massage chairs, the inflatable Woollip is a sort of "flipped pillow," with holes for the face and arms. This allows the user to find a more comfortable sleeping position, with their head down instead of upright and fighting gravity. The Woollip is also designed for ease of travel, and can be inflated and deflated quickly.

GEOORITAL ELECTRIC BIKE WHEEL ELIMINATES THE HUB



The GeoOrbital Wheel replaces the hub with a motor, battery and electronics, making it a snap to transform almost any bike to an electric bike. The standout feature of the GeoOrbital is the non-rotating module that attaches to the front forks of the bike. Three arms with rubber rollers at the end make contact with the inside of the wheel rim, with the bottom roller powered by the 500-watt motor. This roller causes the wheel to spin, and rotate around the stationary module. Speed is controlled via a throttle, and a four hour charge can power the bike up to 20 miles without pedaling.

WEARABLE PATCH PREDICTS
PATIENTS' NEXT HEART ATTACK



The problem with doctors is you only see them after you're sick. Prevention is preferable. A new generation of wearable sensors is finally living up to that promise by letting patients get constant, personalized care wherever they go. BeVITAL's thin, disposable patch, essentially a sensor-laden Band-Aid weighing 11g, is affixed to patients' chests to track heart activity, breathing rate, temperature, physical movement, posture, and even falls, says the manufacturer, Vital Connect. The patch can stream vital signs to doctors offices 24/7 and send out warning signals, sometimes weeks in advance, before serious problems begin.

PILLDRILL MAKES REMEMBERING MEDICATION EASIER



Developed to help improve compliance, PillDrill reminds patients to take their medication, and also helps keep loved ones informed. Designed to be user friendly and approachable, The PillDrill is made up of the PillDrill Hub and a set of weekly pill strips and scanning tags, both equipped with RFID pods. The user can either attach the scanning tags to their own medication bottles, or place their medicine inside the pill strips containers. Then, to program the PillDrill reminders, the user can simply swipe their tagged medication bottle along the side of the device. Once the medication schedule is learned, the PillDrill will emit a visual and audio alert if the medication is not logged, as well as send a message to a paired phone. BIOMIN TOOTHPASTE REBUILDS
TEETH



Dental decay is the most prevalent disease worldwide and the majority of adults will also experience tooth sensitivity at some stage during their lives. A new toothpaste ingredient which puts back the lost minerals from tooth enamel and helps prevent decay and treat sensitivity while you sleep is available online and from specialist dental distributors now. The new BioMinF toothpaste ingredient provides a new tooth repair technology which will bring relief to the millions of adults and children around the world who are prone to tooth decay and sensitivity.

SIGN ALOUD GLOVES TRANSLATE SIGN LANGUAGE TO SPEECH



The Sign Aloud gloves translate sign language into speech, making it much easier for the deaf to communicate with non-ASL users. Developed by a undergraduates Thomas Pryor and Navid Azodi of the University of Washington, Sign Aloud gloves are equipped with an array of sensors able to detect the motion and position of the wearer's hands. As these movements are detected, the data is sent via Bluetooth to a central processor that determines if the movements indicate an American Sign Language gesture, and translates the word or phrase to audible speech. The translation is near instant and— unlike other ASL translation devices—the gloves are comfortable enough to be worn every day.

HANDPRESSO PUMP POT BREWS WITHOUT BATTERIES



The Handpresso Pump Pop lets coffee-lovers enjoy their espresso on the go, and requires no electricity or batteries to operate. Made of aluminum and available in three different colors, the Handpresso Pump Pop requires only warm water and your favorite ground espresso beans to serve up a fresh cup. To brew a cup, simply bring the device up to pressure by pumping it much like a bicycle pump, add warm water and coffee grounds to the appropriate reservoirs, and then dispense the brew.

MOVE IT MODULAR SMART HOME GYM



Touted as the world's first mobileconnected smart gym, the modular Move It smart home gym can turn any room into a workout space. The Move It home gym can be used in spaces as small as ten-foot square, and packs away into a compact unit for storage. A key point in the Move It's design is the pair of sensor-equipped handles that can be used with the different pieces of equipment: the ab wheel, resistance band, pushup stands and jump rope. The sensors, which include 3D gyro, radio frequency, pressure and infrared, are able to track 16 different exercises, and have a battery life of about 10 hours. Data is sent to the smartphone in real time, and the system also includes pre-set workouts and a way to challenge friends through social media.

OOMBRELLA



Oombrella, as it's called, is a connected umbrella that features a broad suite of environmental sensors that can send updates/notifications to your smartphone. The device allows users to receive real-time weather notifications, and even retrieve a lost umbrella through Oombrella's community of users. Oombrella features a set of Kevlar ribs so that the umbrella can withstand high winds and heavy rain without damage. Down below, the handle is made of injected plastic to ensure that the sensor capsule is completely waterproof. Oombrella's magic is all packed away inside this capsule, which includes sensors to measure temperature, pressure, humidity, and light.

SMARTPHONE AIDED HOME URINE TEST



There's a good reason your doctor asks for a urine sample at your annual checkup. A simple, color-changing paper test, dipped into the specimen, can measure levels of glucose, blood, protein and other chemicals. The simple test is powerful, but it isn't perfect: It takes time, costs money and creates backlogs for clinics and primary care physicians. Now a home urine test able to accurately screen for diseases could offer an affordable way for people to monitor their health at home. A team from Stanford University created a device that separates the urine sample automatically into ten identically sized amounts, which are then deposited on the "dipstick's" ten pads. Each pad contains biomarkers that will change color in the presence of a specific disease. A smartphone loaded with the companion app is then placed on top of the box, where it will interpret the colors and ensure an accurate reading.

MONITORING BLOOD SUGAR WITH MICROWAVES



For diabetics, keeping track of blood sugar can be a drag, with Type 1 sufferers having to monitor their levels as much as six times a day. A new device might make life significantly easier, providing a noninvasive solution for tracking glucose levels, without the need to extract blood. The sensor, developed by a team from Cardiff University, attaches to the skin with adhesives, where it uses microwaves to measure glucose levels in the blood. The data is then sent to a paired device for review. According to the team, the microwaves are quite safe, at about 1000 times less than the levels produced by a smartphone.

KNOCKI: MAKE ANY SURFACE SMART



Technology should make our lives easier, so why does controlling it feel so complicated? An endless maze of mobile apps, smart switches, and other interfaces create a confusing and fragmented experience. There is a better way – Knocki, which is a smart device that gives you control of your favorite functions through the surfaces around you. With Knocki, you can simplify everything from finding your lost phone to controlling your lights, all through ordinary surfaces like nightstands, tables, wall and doors. You've never seen anything like it!

COUNTRY PROFILE



hailand is a country in Southeast Asia. It is the only Southeast Asian country never to have been occupied by any European or other foreign power, except in war. Thailand is bordered on the west and northwest by Myanmar, on the northeast and east by Laos and Cambodia, and on the south by the Gulf of Thailand, peninsular Malaysia, and the Andaman Sea. Bangkok is the capital and largest city. A newly industrialized economy, Thailand is regarded as one of the fasting growing economies in Asia. With a well-developed infrastructure, a free-enterprise economy, generally pro-investment policies, and strong export industries, Thailand achieved steady growth due largely to industrial and agriculture exports - mostly electronics, agricultural commodities, automobiles and parts, and processed foods. It is a heavily export-dependent economy, with exports accounting for more than two thirds of its gross domestic product (GDP).

Agriculture

Forty-two per cent of Thailand's labor force is employed in agriculture. Thai agriculture is highly competitive, diversified and specialized.

Crops: Rice, corn, tapioca, manioc, rubber, grain, palm oil, coconuts, coffee and sugarcane, fish and fish products.

Mining

The country has rich deposits of gypsum, lead, natural gas, tin and tungsten, lignite (a form of coal), zinc ore, feldspar, limestone, dolomite, rock salt, and iron ore.

Industry

Textiles and garments, agricultural processing, beverages, tobacco, cement,

light manufacturing such as jewelry and electric appliances, computers and parts, integrated circuits, furniture, plastics, automobiles and automotive parts, agricultural machinery, air conditioning and refrigeration, ceramics, aluminum, chemical.

Tourism

Tourism makes up about 6% of the economy. Thailand's attractions include Bangkok shopping malls, diving sites, sandy beaches, hundreds of tropical Islands, nightlife, archaeological sites, museums, hill tribes, flora and bird life, palaces, Buddhist temples and several World Heritage sites.

Transportation

Thailand has an extensive network of inland waterways, based on the Chao Phraya river and linking the agricultural heartland of central Thailand to Klong Toey Port in Bangkok. Thailand's railway system, established a century ago, consists of 4,044 km of track, which links Bangkok to the northern city of Chiang Mai as well as to the country's western, northeastern, and southern extremities. The country has 57,400 km of roads and highways. Thailand's largest airport is Don Muang International Airport in northern metropolitan Bangkok. Smaller domestic airports are located throughout the country. Thai Airways offers flights throughout the region.

FOREIGN TRADE

Exports: \$214.8 billion (2015 estimate)

Export commodities: automobiles and parts, computer and parts, jewelry and precious stones, refine fuels, electronic integrated circuits, chemical products, rice, fish products, rubber products, sugar, cassava, poultry, machinery and parts, iron and steel and their products.

Import: \$196.4 billion (2015 estimate)

Import commodities: machinery and parts, crude oil, electrical machinery and parts, chemicals, iron and steel and product, electronic integrated circuit, automobile's parts, jewelry, computers and parts, electrical household appliances, wheat, cotton, dairy products

Major trading partners: China, USA, Japan, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Singapore, Indonesia, Australia and UAE

IMPORT TARIFF IN THE THAILAND MARKET (2014)

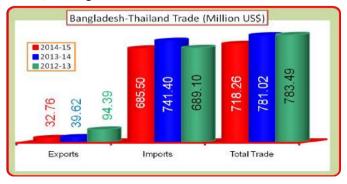
Thailand import tariff structure has evolved over the year in pursuant with its national demand. Average Most Favored Nation (MFN) applied rates varies from as low as 0.0 percent (for cotton) to as high as 45.3 percent (for coffee & tea).

Duaduat Cyauna		Applied Outies	In	nports
Product Groups	AVG	Duty-free in %	Share in %	Duty-free in %
Animal products Dairy products Fruit, vegetables, plants Coffee, tea Cereals & preparations	29.5	9.2	0.1	14.5
	38.1	0.0	0.3	0.0
	40.7	1.0	0.6	0.2
	45.3	0.0	0.2	0.0
	24.9	7.8	1.0	25.1
Oilseeds, fats & oils	32.4	0.0	1.3	0.0
Sugars and confectionery	42.6	0.0	0.1	0.0
Beverages & tobacco	44.5	2.1	0.3	0.3
Cotton	0.0	100.0	0.3	100.0
Other agricultural products	13.9	5.1	0.5	15.5
Fish & fish products	11.2	0.0	1.3	0.0
Minerals & metals	6.2	35.0	24.7	43.1
Petroleum	6.1	18.8	17.1	92.1
Chemicals	3.3	50.7	9.1	34.7
Wood, paper, etc.	6.9	21.4	1.5	31.2
Textiles	8.7	0.0	1.6	0.0
Clothing	29.6	0.0	0.3	0.0
Leather, footwear, etc.	12.6	9.9	1.4	17.9
Non-electrical machinery	4.3	19.8	12.7	30.6
Electrical machinery	8.1	23.3	13.8	53.5
Transport equipment	20.7	9.3	7.6	23.8
Manufactures, n.e.s.	10.6	12.9	4.3	37.0

Source: WTO

BANGLADESH-THAILAND TRADE

Two-way trade between the countries has shown a falling trend in recent years. Total trade amounted to \$718.26 million in 2014-15 compared to \$781.02 million in 2013-14 and \$783.49 million in 2012-13, showing a fall of 8.04% in 2014-15 and 0.32% in 2013-14.



Exports to Thailand

Bangladesh's exports to Thailand have shown a falling trend in recent years. Exports amounted to \$32.76 million in 2014-15 compared to \$39.62 million in 2013-14 and \$94.39 million in 2012-13, showing a fall of 17.31% in 2014-15 and 58.02% in 2013-14. Thailand accounted for 0.10% of total Bangladesh exports in 2014-15.

(Million US \$)

Major Export Items	2014-15	2013-14	2012-13
Knitwear	7.11	6.70	7.84
Woven garments	4.84	4.44	6.44
Electrical, electronic equipment	4.62	3.56	1.09
Guts, bladders and stomachs of animals	3.95	1.43	3.11
Home textile	1.31	1.36	2.35
Other fish, excluding livers and roes	1.07	2.07	0.42
Iron and steel	1.06	2.35	0.64
Jute & jute goods	1.04	10.32	58.28
Others	7.76	7.39	14.22
Total	32.76	39.62	94.39

Source: Export Promotion Bureau

Imports from Thailand

Bangladesh's imports from Thailand have shown a mixed trend in recent years. Imports amounted to \$685.50 million in 2014-15 compared to \$741.40 million in 2013-14 and \$689.10 million in 2012-13, showing a fall of 7.54% in 2014-15 but a rise of 7.59% in 2013-14. Thailand shared 1.69% of Bangladesh total imports in 2014-15.

(Million US \$)

Major Import Items 2014-15 2013-14 2012-13 Plastic and articles thereof 140.20 142.50 120.20 Lime and cement 103.90 105.10 132.30 Man-made staple fibres 57.00 77.00 64.30 Machinery and mechanical 49.30 40.20 38.70 appliances 30.80 30.60 28.90 Cotton Tanning or dyeing extracts 25.30 25.50 19.50 Man-made filaments 16.10 22.50 19.00 Paper and paper board 15.90 21.20 19.60 Rubber and articles thereof 18.70 19.20 12.60 Electrical machinery and 13.80 15.30 9.20 equipments Mineral fuels 10.60 14.30 46.60 Edible fruit and nuts 10.10 6.20 0.70 Iron and steel 5.60 5.30 3.60 Cereals 2.30 3.70 1.20 Sugar and sugar confectionery 0.20 20.70 20.40 Others 185.70 189.20 152.30 Total 685.50 741.40 689.10

Source: Bangladesh Bank

MEMBER PROFILE

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited (HSBC)

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) opened its first branch in Bangladesh in 1996. Today, HSBC serves customers in capital city Dhaka, port city Chittagong and in Sylhet. It's the only international bank to be present in all 8 Export Processing Zones (EPZs) of Bangladesh expediting trade.

The bank throughout its history has always been where the growth is, connecting customers to opportunities through its global network, enabling businesses to thrive and economies to prosper. As the leading international trade bank HSBC offers a range of financial services for its customers in Bangladesh including commercial banking, retail banking, payments and cash management, trade services, treasury, and custody and clearing.

To further smoothen customer's banking journey, HSBC has been investing and focusing on alternate channels such as Personal Internet Banking (PIB), HSBCnet and so on. PIB aims at providing convenience and value-added online banking services to customers wherever they are. The platform has best-in-class security and comprehensive features, and HSBC is still the only bank in Bangladesh to provide a separate security token. Not only are alternate channels like PIB extremely convenient for the customer, they are also environmentally friendly as they help reduce HSBC's carbon footprint. Furthermore, a number of important enhancements have been made to PIB that allows a wider range of services available to customers such as inter-bank fund transfers through Bangladesh Electronic Funds Transfer Network (BEFTN) and Real-time Gross Settlement Systems (RTGS), credit card bill payment and so on.

HSBCnet is an internet banking solution for all Middle Market Enterprise (MME), Global Banking and Markets customers, as well as Upper Business Banking clients with international needs, or more sophisticated cash management requirements. It is a unique, awardwinning tool for effectively conducting transactions. It gives customers the ability to efficiently manage their company's cash management and trade requirements, from around the world, with access to real-time information. It's a feature-rich tool that delivers day-today treasury and finance capabilities to the customers' fingertips. New features and functionality are continually being added to HSBCnet to best meet HSBC customers' evolving financial needs.

Success for HSBC means not only providing customers with products and services they need but also understanding and managing the impact the bank has on society and the environment, and investing in the future of the bank's employees and the communities it serves. HSBC understands how important it is that banks play a positive role in the economy and society at large. HSBC believes that a sustainable bank must be consistently profitable, but not solely concerned with making profit. In Bangladesh, HSBC is also engaged in sponsoring a number of long term community programmes, focusing its investment on education and environment. Sustainability is deeply embedded in HSBC's operations and everything that the bank does. These measures help HSBC to carry out work in a way that is both commercially astute and ethically sound.

In recent past, HSBC has been awarded 'The Best Foreign Bank in Bangladesh'



Mr. Francois de Maricourt Chief Executive Officer

by FinanceAsia magazine; 'Best Cash Manager, Bangladesh' by Euromoney Cash Management Survey 2015; 'Project Finance Bank of the Year, Bangladesh' by The Asset Triple A Asia Infrastructure Awards 2015 House Awards; 'The Asset Triple A Asia Infrastructure Awards 2015 House Awards' by The Asset Triple A Asia Infrastructure Awards 2015 House Awards: 'Best Power Deal: Shahiibazar US\$257 million ECA-backed project financing' by The Asset Triple A Asia Infrastructure Awards 2015 House Awards; 'BPDB - Chapainawabganj 100MW HFO Power Plant's \$112m multi-ECA financing' by GlobalCapital Asia/Asiamoney **Best** Country Deal Awards 2015; and 'Best Deal: Chapainawabganj' by Trade Finance Awards 2016.



MEMBERS NEWS

AB Bank signs Mou with AGWEB

AB Bank Limited signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Association of Grassroots Women Entrepreneurs, Bangladesh (AGWEB) to undertake the project "Credit Access for Women Entrepreneurs - Challenges and the Way Forward". Under this agreement, AGWEB and AB Bank Limited will jointly organize workshops, trainings, etc. for women entrepreneurs of the country in developing small and micro entrepreneurship. Mr. Shamim Ahmed Chaudhury. President & Managing Director of AB Bank Limited and Ms. Mousumi Islam, President, AGWEB



signed the MoU on behalf of their respective organizations. Senior officials from both the organizations were also present at the event.

MTB signs MoU with PRAN-RFL GROUP

Md. Hashem Chowdhury, Additional Managing Director & Chief Operating Officer (COO), Mutual Trust Bank Ltd. (MTB), is seen exchanging documents with Ms.Uzma Chowdhury, Director, Finance, PRAN-RFL Group after signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for ATM installation. Under the MoU, dedicated ATMs will be installed for the employees of Multiline Industries Ltd., a sister concern of PRAN-RFL Group. Mr. Anis A. Khan, Managing Director & CEO, Mr. Md. Zakir Hussain, Deputy Managing Director & Chief Risk Officer (CRO), Mr. Syed Rafiqul Haq, Deputy



Managing Director & Chief Business Officer (CBO), Mr. Tarek Reaz Khan, Head of SME & Retail Banking of MTB and other senior officials of both the organizations were also present at the occasion.

IDLC partners with IWF to promote mental health and wellbeing in high schools

IDLC as part of its Corporate Responsible Practices partnered with Innovation for Wellbeing Foundation (IWF) to pilot the development and implementation of mental health and wellbeing programs in high schools with an aim to enhance the human capital of the country. The signing was chaired by Mr. Arif Khan, CEO & Managing Director, IDLC Finance Limited and Ms. Monira Rahman, Executive Director. Innovation Wellbeing Foundation. The Government of Bangladesh has introduced mental health component in Grade IX and X under Physical Education and Health. Accordingly, IWF facilitated Mental



Health First Aid (MHFA) lite course with 180 High School Teachers including Head Teachers from Potia, Bashkhali, Swandip and Chittagong City Corporation area, Dhaka Metropolitan city and Netrokona District.

Bank Asia helps 'Junior Saver'

Mr. Md. Mehmood Husain President & Managing Director of Bank Asia Limited is handing over financial assistance and scholarship to three students of "Smart Junior Saver" school banking account holder due to the death of their guardians, in a simple ceremony held at Bank Asia Bhaban, Chittagong recently. Mr. Md. Zahirul Alam, Deputy Managing Director of the bank, Mr. S M Anisuzzaman, EVP, Mr. Arequl Arefeen, SVP and Mr. A.K.M Shaiful Islam Chowdhury,SVP & Head of Bank Asia Bhaban branch are also seen in the picture.



EBL signs an agreement with SME Foundation

Eastern Bank Limited (EBL) recently signed an agreement with **SME** Foundation (SMEF) to receive Tk 50 million loan for financing to footwear and leather goods manufacturing industries of various area of Bangladesh. This loan will be disbursed under the banner of "EBL Udoy" which is designed for the development of footwear and leather goods manufacturing industries. Under the scheme, SME entrepreneur will get loan from Tk 1 lac to 10 lac for six months to three years. The objective of this program is to ensure the access to credits for the eligible and potential micro



and small entrepreneurs of leather tanning, footwear production and leather products. Mr. Ali Reza Iftekhar, EBL Managing Director and CEO and Mr. Md. Shafiqul Islam, SME Foundation Managing Director signed the agreement on behalf of their respective organizations.

Mr. Shahid Hossain, Managing Director of Southeast Bank LTD, elected Chairman of PDBL

Mr. Shahid Hossain, Managing Director of Southeast Bank Limited was elected Chairman of Primary Dealers Bangladesh Limited (PDBL) by the newly formed board of directors. The 8th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of PDBL was held on 12 May, 2016 at the head office of National Credit and Commerce Bank Ltd, Dhaka. A twelve member Board of Directors of PDBL had been formed in the meeting. The members of the Board are: (1) Managing Director & CEO, Sonali Bank Limited (2) Managing Director & CEO, Agrani Bank Limited (3) CEO & Managing Director, Janata Bank Limited (4) President & MD, AB Bank Limited (5) Managing Director, Jamuna Bank Limited (6) Managing Director & CEO, Mercantile Bank Limited (7) Managing Director & CEO, Mutual Trust Bank Limited (8) Managing Director, National Bank Limited (9) Managing Director & CEO, National Credit & Commerce Bank Limited (10) Managing Director & CEO, Prime Bank Limited (11) Managing Director, Southeast Bank Limited (12) Managing Director & CEO, Uttara Bank Limited



CHAMBER EVENTS



The Chamber, jointly with the Maasranga Television, organized a pre-budget dialogue entitled 'Budget 2016-2017: Our Expectations' at the Chamber which was broadcast live on 13 May 2016. Mr. A.M.A. Muhith, M.P. the Minister for Finance was present as Chief Guest. Dr. A.B. Mirza Md. Azizul Islam, former Adviser to the Caretaker Government, Dr. Wahiduddin Mahmud, former Adviser to the Caretaker Government, Mr. Syed Nasim Manzur, President of the Chamber and Ms. Nihad Kabir, the former Vice President and member of the present Chamber Committee, who anchored the session, are also seen in the picture.



A partial view of the participants at the dialogue on 13 May 2016



The Chamber organized a discussion meeting at the Chamber on its budget proposals for the National Budget 2016-2017 with some members of parliament on 26 May 2016. Mr. Syed Nasim Manzur, the President of the Chamber, is seen speaking on the occasion.



A partial view of the participants at the discussion meeting on 26 May 2016

REVIEW

Foreign trade

The country's foreign trade amounted to US\$55176.45 million during July-March 2015-16. Of the total amount, exports were \$30221.28 million while imports (LC Settlement) were \$24955.17 million, showing a trade deficit of \$5266.11 million (See Table-1).



Export earnings

During July-March 2015-16, total export earnings (EPB) amounted to US\$24955.17 million compared to \$22904.75 earned during July-March 2014-15, showing an increase of \$2050.42 million or 8.95 percent. However, against the target \$24438.00 million set for the period, export earnings rose by \$517.17 million or 2.12 percent. Compared to the same period of previous fiscal year, export earnings from woven garments rose by \$1208.36 million or 12.64 percent, that from knitwear by \$605.44 million or 6.68 percent, from petroleum bi-products

Table --- 1: Balance of Trade

	July-March 2013-14	July-March 2014-15	July-March 2015-16								
(In million US\$)											
Trade balance -5132.19 -5884.04 -5266.11											
Total exports ¹	22242.66	22904.75	24955.17								
Total imports*	27374.85	28788.79	30221.28								
	(Annual change	in million US\$)									
Trade balance	-847.57	-751.85	617.93								
Total exports	2538.72	662.09	2050.42								
Total imports	3386.29	1413.94	1432.49								
	(Annual perce	entage change)									
Trade balance	-19.78	-14.65	10.50								
Total exports	12.88	2.98	8.95								
Total imports	14.12	5.17	4.98								

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

by \$193.15 million or 374.47 percent, from engineering equipments by \$99.41 million or 164.31 percent and from footwear by \$29.56 million or 6.03 percent. The exports earning also increased from leather & leather products by \$23.17 million or 4.89 percent, raw jute by \$19.13 million or 23.08 percent, man-made filaments & staple fibers by \$11.36 million or 16.19 percent, pharmaceuticals products by \$7.47 million or 13.78 percent and terry towel by \$6.64 million or 21.61 percent (See Table-2).

Table-2: Export earnings of the following major commodities increased during July-March 2015-16

	Export	earnings¹(In M	n. US\$)		olute change In.US\$)	Annual p Chang	ercentage ge (%)	Share in total export (%)	
Commodities	July-Mar. 2013-14	July-Mar. 2014-15	July-Mar. 2015-16	July-Mar. 2014-15	July-Mar. 2015-16	July-Mar. 2014-15	July-Mar. 2015-16	July-Mar. 2014-15	July-Mar. 2015-16
Woven garments	9221.72	9557.40	10765.76	335.68	1208.36	3.64	12.64	41.73	43.14
Knitwear	8830.97	9068.88	9674.32	237.91	605.44	2.69	6.68	39.59	38.77
Footwear	410.21	489.86	519.42	79.65	29.56	19.42	6.03	2.14	2.08
Leather & Leather products	550.89	474.14	497.31	-76.75	23.17	-13.93	4.89	2.07	1.99
Petroleum byproducts	134.31	51.58	244.73	-82.73	193.15	-61.60	374.47	0.23	0.98
Engineering equipments	50.81	60.50	159.91	9.69	99.41	19.07	164.31	0.26	0.64
Raw Jute	91.69	82.90	102.03	-8.79	19.13	-9.59	23.08	0.36	0.41
Man made filaments & staple fibers	74.71	70.15	81.51	-4.56	11.36	-6.10	16.19	0.31	0.33
Pharmaceuticals	53.33	54.19	61.66	0.86	7.47	1.61	13.78	0.24	0.25
Terry towel	53.61	30.73	37.37	-22.88	6.64	-42.68	21.61	0.13	0.15

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

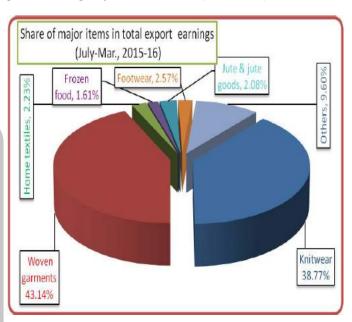
However, earnings from frozen food declined by \$60.06 million or 12.99 percent that from vegetables by \$36.81 million or 41.39 percent, home textiles by \$36.39 million or 6.14 percent, jute goods by \$30.39 million or 5.33 percent, bicycle by \$24.96 million or 25.57 percent, electric products by \$23.34 million or 30.75 percent, fruits by \$14.37 million or 43.81 percent and tobacco by \$13.53 million or 22.97 percent. The export earnings also declined from plastic products by \$9.49 million or 12.43 percent, ceramic products by \$3.75 million or 11.22 percent, cut flower by \$3.21 million or 42.52 percent and cotton yarn & waste by \$0.34 million or 0.43 percent (See Table-3).

Table-3: Export earnings of the following major commodities declined during July-March 2015-16

	Export	earning\$(In M	In. US\$)	Annual abs (In M	solute change In.US\$)	Annual _I Chan	percentage ge (%)	Share in total export (%)	
Commodities	July-Mar. 2013-14	July-Mar. 2014-15	July-Mar. 2015-16	July-Mar. 2014-15	July-Mar. 2015-16	July-Mar. 2014-15	July-Mar. 2015-16	July-Mar. 2014-15	July-Mar. 2015-16
Home textiles	572.57	592.45	556.06	19.88	-36.39	3.47	-6.14	2.59	2.23
Jute goods	520.59	569.94	539.55	49.35	-30.39	9.48	-5.33	2.49	2.16
Frozen food	495.84	462.53	402.47	-33.31	-60.06	-6.72	-12.99	2.02	1.61
Cotton yarn & waste	88.62	78.65	78.31	-9.97	-0.34	-11.25	-0.43	0.34	0.31
Bicycle	76.37	97.63	72.67	21.26	-24.96	27.84	-25.57	0.43	0.29
Plastic Products	59.34	76.32	66.83	16.98	-9.49	28.61	-12.43	0.33	0.27
Electric products	39.88	75.91	52.57	36.03	-23.34	90.35	-30.75	0.33	0.21
Vegetables	102.54	88.94	52.13	-13.60	-36.81	-13.26	-41.39	0.39	0.21
Tobacco	52.77	58.91	45.38	6.14	-13.53	11.64	-22.97	0.26	0.18
Ceramic products	36.09	33.41	29.66	-2.68	-3.75	-7.43	-11.22	0.15	0.12
Fruits	21.64	32.80	18.43	11.16	-14.37	51.57	-43.81	0.14	0.07
Cut flower	27.86	7.55	4.34	-20.31	-3.21	-72.90	-42.52	0.03	0.02

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

The share of knitwear and woven garments in total exports was 81.91 percent during July-March 2015-16 compared to 81.32 percent during July-March 2014-15 (See table 2).



Import payments

During July-March 2015-16, total import payments (LC settlement) rose by US\$1432.49 million or 4.98 percent to \$30221.28 million compared to \$26855.53 million during July-March 2014-15. The industrial raw materials topped the list in the review period with import amounting to \$11852.30 million, sharing 39.22 percent of total import, followed by consumer goods \$3489.25 million (11.55 percent), machinery for miscellaneous industries \$3174.26 million (10.50 percent), capital machinery \$2508.33 million (8.30 percent), intermediate goods \$2503.72 million (8.28 percent) and petroleum & petroleum products \$1926.85 million (6.38 percent) (See table 4).

During the period under review, imports of industrial raw materials increased by 3.47 percent, machinery for miscellaneous industries by 12.90 percent, capital machinery by 12.55 percent and intermediate goods by 6.24 percent. However, imports of consumer goods declined by 5.29 percent and petroleum & petroleum products by 28.92 percent (See Table 4).

Table-4: Import Payments of major commodities during July-March 2015-16

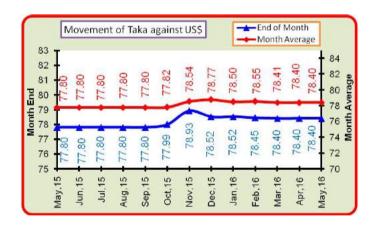
	ayments*(In M	In. US\$)	Annual abs (In M	solute change In.US\$)	Annual p Chan	ercentage ge (%)	Share in total import (%)		
Commodities	July-Mar. 2013-14	July-Mar. 2014-15	July-Mar. 2015-16	July-Mar. 2014-15	July-Mar. 2015-16	July-Mar. 2014-15	July-Mar. 2015-16	July-Mar. 2014-15	July-Mar. 2015-16
Industrial raw materials	10863.87	11455.08	11852.30	591.21	397.22	5.44	3.47	39.79	39.22
Consumer goods	3502.86	3684.13	3489.25	181.27	-194.88	5.17	-5.29	12.80	11.55
Machinery for miscellaneous industries	2529.02	2811.67	3174.26	282.65	362.59	11.18	12.90	9.77	10.50
Capital machinery	1815.82	2228.55	2508.33	412.73	279.78	22.73	12.55	7.74	8.30
Intermediate goods	2169.68	2356.59	2503.72	186.91	147.13	8.61	6.24	8.19	8.28
Petroleum & petroleum products	3232.89	2710.75	1926.85	-522.14	-783.90	-16.15	-28.92	9.42	6.38
Others	3260.71	3542.02	4766.58	281.31	1224.56	8.63	34.57	12.30	15.77
Total	27374.85	28788.79	30221.28	1413.94	1432.49	5.17	4.98	100.00	100.00

Note: * = LC Settlement, Source: Bangladesh Bank

Exchange rate movements



Taka depreciated against US\$ by 0.77 percent to Tk. 78.40 on 26 May 2016 from its level of Tk. 77.80 at the end of May 2015. Meanwhile, Taka also depreciated by 0.77 percent to Tk. 78.40 on averages in May 2016 from its average level of Tk. 77.80 in May 2015.



Stock market



The broad index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) rose by 5.42% to 4423.00 on 30 May 2016 from 4195.70 at the end of April 2016. The market capitalization increased by 2.17% during the month to Tk 3111.44 billion from Tk 3045.50 billion at the end of April 2016. On 30 May 2016, total turnover in the DSE was 148.78 million in volume and Tk 4637.03 million in value.

The all share index of the Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE) rose by 5.37% to 13612.12 on 30 May 2016 from 12918.64 at the end of April 2016. The market capitalization rose by 2.69% to Tk 2448.81 billion from Tk 2384.68 billion at the end of April 2016. Total turnover was 11.81 million in volume and Tk 289.47 million in value in the CSE on 30 May 2016.

STATISTICS

Major economic indicators-Bangladesh

Period Indicators	25 May, 201	6	28 Apr., 20	16	31 Mar.	, 2016	29	Feb., 20	016	25 May, 2015	FY 2014-15 P	FY 2013-14
Foreign exchange reserve (in million US\$)	28642.02 (21.	3) 2	9106.26 (22	2.5)	28265.93	(22.8)	280)58.56 (2	21.8)	23608.69 (16.5)	25020.45(16.1)	21558.03(40.8)
	May,16		Apr,16		Mar,	16		Feb,16		May, 15	FY 2014-15 P	FY 2013-14
Exchange rate (Tk./US\$) (average)	78.40		78.40		78.4	1		78.55	77.80		77.67	77.72
	Apr., 201	6 P	JulA	Apr., 20	15-16 P	A	pr., 20	15	Jul	Apr., 2014-15	FY2014-15 ^P	FY2013-14
Wage earners' remittances (in million US\$)	1191.15 (-8	5.2)	122:	50.83 (-2	2.4)	12	97.49 (49 (5.4)		2555.80 (7.1)	15316.90 (7.7)	14228.31 (-1.6)
Overseas employment (no. of persons)	58993(31.	2)	561	503 (5	1.2)	44	952(16	5.5)		371251 (11.3)	461829 (12.9)	408870 (-7.3)
(corresponding	Mar., 201				015-16 ^P		/Jar., 2			lMar., 2014-15	FY2014-15 ^P	FY2013-14
Imports (C&F) (in million US\$)	3632.40 (6			35.80 (03.68(-			9430.80 (-0.1)	45190.20 (11.3)	40616.40(19.2)
Imports(f.o.b) (in million US\$)	3361.00(6			95.00 (+	49.00(-			7231.00 (2.7)	40685.00 (11.3)	36571.00 (8.9)
1	Apr., 201				15-16 ^P		pr., 20			-Apr., 2014-15	FY2014-15 ^p	FY2013-14
Exports (EPB) (in million US\$)	2682.05 (1		276	37.22 (9.2)	_	98.50(-			5303.25 (2.6)	31198.45 (3.4)	30186.62(11.7)
	Mar., 201				15-16 P	N	Лаг., 20	015	Jul	l-Mar., 2014-15	FY2014-15 ^P	FY2013-14
Tax revenue (NBR) (Tk. in billion)	140.73 (12.	7)	10:	54.32 (1	15.9)	12	24.83 (1	15.8)	9	009.60 (14.5)	1367.24 (13.2)	1208.20 (6.7)
Investment in national savings certificates (Tk. in billion)	Mar, 2010	ó ^P	Jul-N	1ar, 201	5-16 P	N	1ar, 20	15	Jul	Mar, 2014-15	FY2014-15 P	FY2013-14
A) Net sale	32.97			231.88			29.01			211.84	287.33	117.07
B) Total outstanding	1283.18			1283.18			975.82			975.82	1051.30	763.97
	Mar., 201	6 P	Jul-N	1ar, 201	15-16 P	N	/ar, 20	15	Jul	l-Mar, 2014-15	FY2014-15 P	FY2013-14
Net foreign aid (in million US\$)	414.13 (62	.8)	193	30.36 (2	21.5)	25	4.30 (-	4.4)	1	589.74 (21.4)	2197.32 (20.1)	1830.12 (-5.2)
	Jul-Mar.,	2015-1	6 P	Jul-	Mar., 2014	-15			FY201	4-15 P	FY2013-14	FY2012-13
Current account balance (in million US\$)	2933	3.00			2434.00				-165	0.00	1402.00	2388.00
Rate of inflation on the basis of consumer price index for national (base:2005-06=100)	Apr., 2016	Mai	., 2016	Feb,	, 2016	Jan., 2	2015	Dec	., 2015	Apr., 2015	FY2014-15 ^p	FY2013-14
A) Twelve month average basis B) Point to point basis	6.04 5.61		5.10		.15 .62	6.2 6.0		6.19 6.10		6.57 6.32	6.41 6.25	7.35 6.97
Reserve money and credit developments (Tk. in billion)	Mar., 20	16 P	F	eb., 201	16 P	Mar., 2015		015		FY2014-15 P	FY2013-14	FY2012-13
A) Reserve money (RM)	1618.82 (1	5.8)	161	7.23 (1	14.9) 1		98.52 (15.3)			186.07(14.3)	173.86(15.5)	146.87 (15.0)
B) Broad money (M2)	8531.85(1)	3.6)	845	0.36(12	2.5)	75	13.87(1	3.87(12.8)		869.90(12.4)	970.18(16.1)	863.96(16.7)
Total domestic credit	7534.91(1	1.4)	747	6.73(10	0.2)	6762.35(10.6)			636.20(9.9)	661.69(11.6)	567.65(11.0)	
A) Net credit to the govt. Sector	997.78(-5.	-		6.92(-7	· /	1056.49(-4.5)			-72.72(-6.2)	74.05(6.7)	183.96(20.1)	
B)Credit to the other public sector	172.70 (-3	-	1	0.19(34	· /	179.18(37		,	` ′		32.82(34.7)	-58.86(-38.4)
C) Credit to the private sector	6364.42(1:			9.61(13			26.68(1		669.59 (13.2)		554.83 (12.3)	442.55(10.9)
Interest rate development	Mar., 16		0., 16	Jan.		Dec.,		Nov., 15 11.27		Mar,15	FY2014-15 P	FY2013-14
Lending rate (weighted average) Deposit rate (weighted average)	10.78 5.92).91 .10		.05	11.13 6.34		6.4		11.93 7.06	11.67 6.80	13.10 7.79
Agricultural credit (Tk. in billion)	Apr., 201		Jul-Api				., 2015			-Apr., 2014-15	FY2014-15 P	FY2013-14
a) Disbursements	13.16(6.9			28(13.9			2.31			123.99	159.78(-0.4)	160.37(9.3)
b) Recovery	12.66(23.			.10(8.9)			0.24			127.85	154.07(-9.6)	170.46(18.7)
Industrial term loan (Tk. in billion)	OctDe	c. 2015-	16 P	J	ulSep 201	5-16 ^P		O	ctDec.	, 2014-15	FY2014-15 ^P	FY2013-14
A) Disbursements		18(-4.4)			127.00(-0					5.44	597.83 (41.3)	423.11 (-0.5)
b) Recovery		46(0.2)			110.72(-5					0.23	475.41 (13.8)	418.07 (14.4)
ADP (Tk. in billion)		2015-16			FY 2014-				FY 20	13-14	FY 2012-13	FY 2011-12
Allocation (except self-financed)	97	70.00			750.00				600	0.00	550.00	460.00
	JulAp	r., 2015	-16	Jı	ulApr., 20	14-15		Ju	ılApr.,	, 2013-14	JulApr., 2012-13	JulApr., 2011-12
Expenditure (% of ADP allocation)	471.1	4 (50%))		433.33 (56	5%)			345.57	(54%)	309.74(54%)	227.10 (55%)
Overall share price index (month end)	25 May, 20	16 [@]	27 A	pr., 201	16 [@]	30 N	1ar., 20)16 [@]		25 May, 2015	30 June, 2015@	30 June, 2014@
Dhaka stock exchange	4366.03			238.94		4	335.29)		4615.01	4531.98	4480.52
Chittagong stock exchange	13444.4			3047.12			3357.83			14133.41	13916.75	13766.22
Investment (in million US\$)	Mar., 20		_	Iar., 20			lar., 20		Ju	l-Mar., 2014-15	FY2014-15 ^p	FY2013-14
Foreign direct investment (FDI)	181.00			1631.00)		202.00			1342.00	1700.00	1432.00
Industrial production indices (base:2005-06=100)	Jan.,2016 P	Е	Dec.,2015 P	N	ov.,2015 P		Oct.,2	015 ^P		Jan., 2015	FY 2014-15 ^P	FY 2013-14
Manufacturing	277.35	- 1	286.05		253.54		235.0			244.81	236.11	213.22
Mining (includes gas production)	191.58		189.09		180.90		151.1			176.14	159.89	157.18
Electricity Page: 2005 06–100	183.47 2015-16 ^P		174.13		185.42		229.9			162.31	209.32	177.20
Base: 2005-06=100		4	6.51	1 2	013-14		2012-			2011-12	2010-11	2009-10* 5.57
GDP growth rate (in percent)	7.05		6.51		6.06		6.01	1	1	6.52	6.46	5.57

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

Export performance of Bangladesh

(Million US \$)

							(Million US \$)
Products	Export Performance for 2014-15 (July-June)	Export Target for 2015-16	Strategic Target for July-April 2015-16	Export Performance for July-April 2015-16	%Change of Export Performance Over s.Export Target	Export Performance for July-April 2014-15	%Change of Export Performance July-April 2015-16 Over July- April 2014 - 15
All products (A+B+C)	31208.94	33500.00	27109.00	27637.22	1.95	25303.25	9.22
A. Primary Commodities	1154.08	1173.00	949.22	902.36	-4.94	993.27	-9.15
(1) Frozen & Live Fish	568.03	578.00	467.73	438.71	-6.20	491.92	-10.82
a) Live Fish	2.81	3.00	2.43	6.53	168.72	2.23	192.83
b) Frozen Fish	49.08	50.00	40.46	42.24	4.40	42.90	-1.54
c) Shrimps	509.72	515.00	416.75	383.74	-7.92	440.50	-12.89
d) Others	6.42	10.00	8.09	6.20	-23.36	6.29	-1.43
(2) Agricultural Products	586.05	595.00	481.49	463.65	-3.71	501.35	-7.52
a) Tea	2.63	2.00	1.62	1.52	-6.17	2.50	-39.20
b) Vegetables	103.24	90.00	72.83	68.71	-5.66	95.73	-28.23
c) Tobacco	68.45	75.00	60.69	47.49	-21.75	61.47	-22.74
d) Cut Flower & Foliage	11.36	11.00	8.90	4.38	-50.79	9.25	-52.65
e) Fruits	38.48	37.00	29.94	18.66	-37.68	37.85	-50.70
f) Spices	23.24	20.00	16.18	23.73	46.66	18.78	26.36
g) Dry Food	94.25	100.00	80.92	76.35	-5.65	73.51	3.86
h) Others	244.4	260.00	210.40	222.81	5.90	202.26	10.16
B. Manufactured Commodities	29922.32	32182.00	26042.44	26627.83	2.25	24211.85	9.98
(1) Cement, Salt, Stone Etc	4.48	4.81	3.89	1.75	-55.01	3.85	-54.55
(2) Ores, Slag and Ash	8.55	8.25	6.68	4.89	-26.80	6.20	-21.13
(3) Petroleum bi Products	77.55	75.07	60.75	249.95	311.44	58.33	328.51
(4) Chemical Products	111.92	126.90	102.69	99.68	-2.93	93.90	6.16
a) Pharmaceuticals	72.64	80.00	64.74	68.24	5.41	59.17	15.33
b) Chemical Fertilizer	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.00	0.05	0.00
c) Cosmetics	1.50	1.84	1.49	1.14	-23.49	1.29	-11.63
d) Others	37.73	45.00	36.42	30.25	-16.94	33.39	-9.40
(5) Plastic Products	100.57	118.00	95.49	73.13	-23.42	83.79	-12.72
a) PVC Bags	36.63	38.00	30.75	26.25	-14.63	30.83	-14.86
b) Plastic Waste	32.35	35.00	28.32	18.33	-35.28	27.23	-32.68
c) Others	31.59	45.00	36.42	28.55	-21.61	25.73	10.96
(6) Rubber	20.18	21.50	17.40	19.35	11.21	14.73	31.36
(7) Leather & Leather Products	1130.51	1212.81	981.43	920.33	-6.23	913.91	0.70
(a) Leather	397.54	400.00	323.69	228.39	-29.44	336.79	-32.19
(b) Leather Products	249.16	262.81	212.67	313.49	47.41	193.40	62.09
(c) Leather Footwear	483.81	550.00	445.07	378.46	-14.97	383.72	-1.37
(8) Wood & Wood Products	3.54	3.61	2.92	5.00	71.23	2.86	74.83
(9) Handicrafts	8.72	10.21	8.26	7.97	-3.51	7.18	11.00
(10) Pulp	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.05	400.00	0	0
(11) Paper & Paper Products	37.30	38.38	31.06	34.70	11.72	30.12	15.21
(12) Printed Materials	0.85	0.85	0.69	0.91	31.88	0.67	35.82
(13) Silk	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.02	-50.00	0.04	-50.00
(14) Wool & Woolen Products (15) Cotton & Cotton Product	1.08	1.50	1.21	0.14	-88.43	1.06	-86.79
(15) Cotton & Cotton Product (Yarn, Waste, Fabrics etc)	107.04	110.29	89.25	86.25	-3.36	88.27	-2.29

Cont.

(Million US \$)

Products	Export Performance for 2014-15 (July-June)	Export Target for 2015-16	Strategic Target for July-April 2015-16	Export Performance for July-April 2015-16	%Change of Export Performance Over s.Export Target	Export Performance for July-April 2014-15	(Million US \$ %Change of Export Performance July-April 2015-16 Over July- April 2014 - 15
(16) Jute & Jute goods	868.53	947.00	766.34	729.87	-4.76	724.25	0.78
a) Raw Jute	111.57	112.00	90.63	123.00	35.72	89.13	38.00
b) Jute Yarn & Twine	552.32	590.00	477.44	452.52	-5.22	457.30	-1.05
c) Jute Sacks & Bags	139.45	170.00	137.57	102.08	-25.80	124.65	-18.11
d) Others	65.19	75.00	60.69	52.27	-13.87	53.17	-1.69
(17) Man Made Filaments & Staple Fibres	97.43	98.56	79.76	91.62	14.87	78.11	17.30
(18) Carpet (Jute & Others -57)	18.90	22.00	17.80	14.56	-18.20	15.79	-7.79
(19) Specialized Textiles	106.99	115.65	93.59	89.20	-4.69	85.83	3.93
a) Terry Towel	41.81	43.00	34.80	40.79	17.21	33.94	20.18
b) Special Woven Fabric	13.12	15.00	12.14	12.95	6.67	10.91	18.70
c) Knitted Fabrics	46.51	52.00	42.08	28.25	-32.87	36.44	-22.48
d) Other	5.55	5.65	4.57	7.21	57.77	4.54	58.81
(20) Knitwear	12426.79	13266.21	10735.33	10737.46	0.02	10007.82	7.29
(21) Woven Garments	13064.61	14105.42	11414.44	11899.38	4.25	10557.94	12.71
(22) Home Textile	804.34	850.00	687.84	623.73	-9.32	668.47	-6.69
a) Bed, Kitchen toilet lines	523.65	550.00	445.07	382.55	-14.05	433.43	-11.74
b) Other	280.69	300.00	242.77	241.18	-0.65	235.04	2.61
(23) Other Footwear (Excluding 6403)	189.46	208.00	168.32	177.98	5.74	149.75	18.85
(24) Headgear/Cap	64.46	72.53	58.69	116.28	98.13	50.98	128.09
(25) Umbrella Waking Sticks	0.11	0.10	0.08	0.03	-62.50	0.08	-62.50
(26) Wigs & Human Hair	15.79	17.28	13.98	14.09	0.79	12.70	10.94
(27) Building Materials	0.13	0.18	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.13	15.38
(28) Ceramic Products	42.92	45.00	36.42	32.11	-11.83	37.26	-13.82
(29) Glass & Glass ware	2.08	2.25	1.82	1.37	-24.73	1.65	-16.97
(30) Engineering Products	447.04	520.58	421.27	459.01	8.96	391.67	17.19
a) Iron Steel	57.90	64.00	51.79	41.50	-19.87	51.50	-19.42
b) Copper Wire	27.88	27.67	22.39	21.49	-4.02	22.34	-3.80
c) Stainless Steel ware	3.89	3.91	3.16	8.53	169.94	3.15	170.79
d) Engineering Equipment	83.03	100.00	80.92	166.20	105.39	69.41	139.45
e) Electric Products	90.11	120.00	97.11	55.47	-42.88	80.50	-31.09
f) Bicycle	126.06	132.00	106.82	80.83	-24.33	110.24	-26.68
g) Others	58.17	73.00	59.07	84.99	43.88	54.53	55.86
(31) Ships, boats & floating structures	15.92	25.00	20.23	14.23	-29.66	6.91	105.93
(32) Other mfd Products	144.49	154.00	124.62	122.64	-1.59	117.60	4.29
a) Optical, Photographic, Medical Instruments etc	60.49	62.50	50.58	48.79	-3.54	50.42	-3.23
b) Furniture	38.94	39.50	31.96	38.43	20.24	32.20	19.35
c) Golf Shaft	14.74	18.00	14.57	8.83	-39.40	12.45	-29.08
d) Others	30.32	34.00	27.51	26.59	-3.34	22.53	18.02
C. Computer Services	132.54	145.00	117.34	107.03 (July-Mar.)	-8.79	98.13 (July-Mar.)	9.07

Source: Export Promotion Bureau

Value of letters of credit opened for import

(Million US\$)

	Fresh I C	s Opening	Sattlama	Settlement of LCs Outstanding LCs				
Sectors / Commodities	Fresh LC	s Opening	Settleme	ent of LCs	Outstan	aing LCs		
	July-Mar. 2015-16	July-Mar. 2014-15	July-Mar. 2015-16	July-Mar. 2014-15	July-Mar. 2015-16	July-Mar. 2014-15		
A. Consumer goods	3508.69	4052.73	3489.25	3684.13	1579.12	1763.65		
Rice and wheat	870.98	1462.25	870.72	1129.71	335.31	518.33		
Sugar and salt	399.45	590.10	590.23	561.88	291.87	363.88		
Milk food	142.93	217.45	153.42	194.52	82.10	109.58		
Edible oil (refined)	564.63	475.98	541.89	610.01	299.81	283.50		
All kinds of fruits	206.57	136.36	174.01	122.83	46.33	29.48		
Pulses	346.66	346.89	267.20	264.25	178.02	156.23		
Onion	210.39	153.04	203.46	142.29	27.32	25.22		
Spices	79.14	86.12	83.68	86.09	20.84	20.61		
Second-hand clothings	1.11	1.84	3.35	3.61	0.02	1.67		
Drugs and medicines (finished)	59.85	48.63	52.83	69.23	20.88	40.76		
Others	626.99	534.05	548.47	499.73	276.63	214.38		
B. Intermediate goods	2728.56	2647.69	2503.72	2356.59	1642.21	1489.31		
Coal	165.65	165.27	181.99	89.32	72.20	84.49		
Cement	6.25	8.31	5.04	4.74	6.52	6.56		
Clinker & limestone	430.74	402.13	405.96	409.30	229.22	212.16		
B.P. Sheet	213.81	248.99	232.29	186.47	184.74	161.39		
Tin plate	8.73	19.29	11.30	21.00	1.90	2.94		
Scrap Vessels	545.67	615.09	524.23	570.98	389.34	346.78		
Iron and steel scrap	43.10	351.06	383.32	266.97	237.23	251.96		
Non-ferrous metal				152.70				
- 10 0 0 000 0 000	198.18 260.87	157.19	154.76		104.44	94.66		
Paper and paper board Other		272.32	238.96	263.92	155.41	136.20		
	455.56	408.05	365.88	391.19	261.23	192.18		
C. Industrial raw materials	12505.35	12157.41	11852.30	11455.08	7606.09	7131.32		
Edible oil & oil seeds	939.55	746.43	685.68	760.81	773.97	604.04		
Textile fabrics (B/B & others)	5218.56	4711.03	4782.18	4150.56	2590.59	2795.48		
Pharmaceutical raw materials	396.15	369.23	387.57	414.44	126.63	163.33		
Raw cotton	1674.25	1752.39	1523.40	1665.76	1407.13	1165.18		
Cotton yarn	856.66	905.25	836.18	865.78	487.90	518.41		
Copra	5.69	6.43	5.62	6.70	1.54	0.67		
Synthetic fibre & yarn	529.80	514.16	478.06	464.01	341.45	303.79		
Chemicals & chem. products	2884.69	3152.49	3153.61	3127.02	1516.87	1580.41		
D. Capital machinery	3334.78	2928.07	2508.33	2228.55	5734.30	4590.72		
Textile machinery	579.22	501.15	344.03	315.57	658.20	493.96		
Leather/tannery	27.08	8.92	7.85	8.05	19.11	4.92		
Jute industry	6.45	8.34	6.74	8.56	7.61	8.12		
Garment Industry	579.89	446.20	450.15	351.52	637.19	517.07		
Pharmaceutical industry	75.95	71.84	63.05	49.37	51.06	47.57		
Packing industry	13.54	5.67	7.76	4.62	10.01	5.22		
Other industry	2052.66	1885.94	1628.76	1490.86	4351.13	3513.87		
E. Machinery for misc. industry	3080.23	2926.87	3174.26	2811.67	2063.52	2039.15		
Other machineries	545.20	460.23	547.88	438.77	422.33	496.49		
Marine diesel engine	10.45	6.02	17.13	9.30	59.89	69.03		
Computer & its accessories	277.18	241.00	267.20	260.85	111.83	88.70		
Motor vehicle & motorcycle parts	86.60	100.59	88.52	125.55	28.37	22.38		
Bicycle parts	43.69	27.88	39.16	31.43	17.53	10.24		
Other Iron and steel products	289.11	440.14	301.18	400.21	227.22	286.76		
Motor vehicles	628.32	471.76	593.98	476.04	184.11	179.13		
Other electronics components	138.28	110.16	115.16	97.57	83.30	91.53		
Tractors & power tiller	65.72	66.09	63.58	67.98	20.45	24.47		
Others	995.69	1003.02	1140.47	903.97	908.48	770.44		
F. Petroleum & petroleum products	1626.99	2721.29	1926.85	2710.75	701.11	1455.17		
Crude	257.32	541.09	497.59	654.75	270.67	535.64		
Refined	1369.67	2180.20	1429.27	2056.00	430.44	919.53		
G. Others	4781.37	4872.78	4766.58	3542.02	3484.63	3832.82		
Total	31565.98	32306.83	30221.28	28788.79	22810.99	22302.13		

Source: Bangladesh Bank

Production of selected industrial items

(Base Year 2005-06=100)

Description of items	Unit	No .of reporting industries (selected)	2013-14	2014 -15	Jan . 2015	Dec. 2015 (p)	Jan . 2016 (p)
Fish & sea food	Mt.	180 & *	57610	55238	3888	4952	4382
Processing & preserving of fruits and Vegetables	"000" Littre	3	43557	61287	4007	5982	6011
Hyd. vegetable oil	Mt.	2	353115	609778	42259	60347	52278
Grain milling	Mt.	8	209106	298939	28112	25567	25905
Rice milling	Mt.	6	18910	21409	1461	1990	1995
Sugar	Mt.	16	128267	78904	32899	19720	25732
Black & blending tea	Mt.	116	66604	63039	166	7631	93
Edible salt	Mt.	8	77686	78912	6697	6057	6154
Animal feeds	Mt.	3	345102	400996	33233	37250	36836
Spirits & alcohol	"000" Littre	1	4236	4561	397	422	236
Soft drinks	`000' Doz Bottle	4	70768	64523	4322	4376	6531
Mineral water	"000" Littre	4	127414	133086	8950	19687	21491
Cigarettes	Mill. No	1	28314	26484	2722	1818	1630
Biddies	Mill. No	5	84122	85678	70 36	8327	8450
Preparation & spinning of textile fibers	Mt.	20	175273	140485	11749	14478	14250
Weaving of textiles	"000" Metre	15	57386	44692	3828	4048	3945
Dyeing, bleaching & finishing	"000" Metre	19	73764	75336	6589	4012	40 30
Jute textile	Mt.	95	387612	306678	22974	52362	24444
Wearing apparel	Million Tk.	*	966144	1014728	101458	95153	114107
Knitwear	Million Tk.	*	935782	960188	86901	77104	91722
Tanning & finishing leather:	"000" Sq.M.	175 & *	36636	34708	2911	1797	2409
Leather footwear	"000" Pair	4	16655	15292	1444	962	977
Particle board/ plywood	"000"Sq.M.	2	7920	8782	726	815	820
Pulp, paper & newsprint	Mt.	3	146812	163270	13592	13662	13667
Articles made of paper	Mt.	2	31322	36712	3080	3210	3215
Printing of books and periodicals	"000" No.	10	158449	163891	13721	13860	13867
Petroleum refining	Mt.	1	1236930	1261905	106430	3880	122100
Compressed liquidified gas	Cylinder (12.5kg)	2	1394711	1375458	111566	64161	111026
Fertilizer	Mt.	7	976691	1028157	139430	128085	124845
Perfumes and cosmetics	"000" Tk.	3	2841560	2162048	35621	214663	106366
Soaps & detergents	Mt.	3	68373	61627	6563	14163	14529
Matches	"000" Gross	2	20813	18935	1529	1580	1615
Pharmaceuticals/Allopathic drugs and medicine	"000" Tk.	20	62005413	85880189	6084 045	6942320	6689858
Unani and Ayur bedic medicine	"000" Tk.	3	474035	534104	44232	45082	46146
Rubber footwear/ other rubber products	Dozen Pair	8	3 63093	3 93588	31780	18518	35360
P.V.C products/plastic products	Mt.	3	31632	35670	2990	3401	3506
Glass sheet	"000"Sq.ft	3	9058	13556	1156	1054	1103
Tiles	"000"Sq.ft.	5	130457	159134	11873	15550	15655
Ceramic	"000" Dozen	2	9269	10396	840	1095	1115
Cement	Mt.	8	3569608	5770527	492835	688500	689860
Bricks	"000" No.	4	119440	110808	9821	15247	13894
Re -rolling mills	Mt.	31	306057	393019	30966	30263	30660
Structural metal products	"000" Mt.	5	8534	9664	753	844	836
Oth er fabricated metal products	Dozen	8	396886	401482	33394	34093	34350
Television	No.	3	252995	355931	36429	41646	52962

Cont.

Description of items	Unit	No .of reporting industries (selected)	2013 - 14	2014-15	Jan . 2015	Dec. 2015 (p)	Jan . 2016 (p)
Electric motors, generators, transformers /		2	344749	345474	28838	33150	33050
electrical apparatus	No.						
Wires & cables(ELEC.)	Mt.	3	22674	23955	1781	2481	2338
Electrical appliances / Domestic appliances	No.	9	236388	289036	24197	25750	25477
Agriculture & forestry machinery	No.	2	77065	82526	68 25	7464	7324
Machinery for textile , apparel and leather production	"000" No.	9	2581	4099	350	582	654
Machinery equipment NEC	Mt.	10	257881	258427	21693	21133	21290
Assemble of motor vehicles	No.	2	846	735	52	105	106
Ship and boat building	Mt.	3	50070	171484	6111	28924	289 93
Motor cycle	No.	3	68965	78896	6535	6891	7026
Metal furniture	No.	2	4725	4470	410	340	340
Wooden furniture	No.	5	65524	73712	6360	7305	7340
Plastic furniture	No.	2	406928	683457	55529	69103	71367
Natural Gas	MCuM	8	23233	25727	2151	2369	2372
Electricity	MKWH	1	40296	43447	3076	3300	3477

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 Year 2005-06=100)

			Index by Expenditure Group										
Period	Generel Index	1. Food & Beverage	2. Non ₋ Food	I. Clothing & Footwear	II. Fuel & Lighting	III. Household Equipment	IV. Medical Care & Health Expenses	V. Transport & Communication	VI. Recreation, Entertainment,	VII. Misc. Goods & Services			
2010-11	156.59	170.48	138.77	140.09	132.33	158.13	144.55	127.44	139.52	148.68			
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			
Apr.,15	211.51	228.39	189.86	212.31	173.23	218.02	191.69	185.88	168.80	207.56			
May,15	208.77	223.36	190.07	212.37	173.25	219.10	191.88	186.10	169.09	207.71			
Jun.,15	209.17	223.43	190.88	214.50	173.53	219.78	192.38	186.97	169.69	208.80			
Jul.,15	212.65	227.78	193.26	223.43	173.74	221.85	193.61	190.80	169.80	209.62			
Aug.,15	215.03	231.91	193.3 9	223.21	174.06	222.31	193.78	191.19	169.90	208.82			
Sep.,15	218.21	235.85	195.5 9	231.68	175.28	223.02	194.13	193.62	169.97	209.20			
Oct.,15	219.62	237.44	196.7 7	231.53	175.45	223.94	194.36	200.08	170.22	210.86			
Nov.,15	219.38	236.61	197.2 9	231.99	175.84	225.03	194.40	201.28	170.48	211.01			
Dec.,15	220.45	236.57	199.7 8	235.93	177.80	229.04	197.29	205.19	170.63	211.16			
Jan.,16	222.87	236.42	205.5 0	237.18	190.58	230.67	205.18	206.22	171.73	212.79			
Feb.,16	222.58	235.81	205.6 1	237.23	190.59	230.81	205.46	206.31	171.78	213.34			
Mar.,16	223.25	236.99	205.6 4	237.25	190.60	230.86	205.48	206.34	171.81	213.40			
Apr.,16	223.37	237.15	205.7 0	237.41	190.61	230.92	205.50	206.44	171.87	213.44			

Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: RURAL

(Base Year 2005-06=100)

			Index by Expenditure Group									
Period	Generel Index	1. Food & Beverage	2. Non ₋ Food	I. Clothing & Footwear	II. Fuel & Lighting	III. Household Equipment	IV. Medical Care & Health Expenses	V. Transport & Communication	VI. Recreation, Entertainment,	VII. Misc. Goods & Services		
2010-11	159.41	170.81	141.28	143.51	134.08	155.22	147.33	125.37	151.11	150.17		
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		
Apr.,15	212.92	225.17	193.42	218.28	172.73	213.79	200.42	175.88	184.66	217.06		
May,15	209.99	220.29	193.60	218.33	172.75	214.47	200.55	176.19	184.94	217.19		
Jun.,15	210.39	220.31	194.62	221.18	172.90	214.97	201.12	177.37	185.96	218.56		
Jul.,15	213.75	224.32	196.93	230.24	173.07	215.90	202.75	179.72	186.15	219.47		
Aug.,15	216.15	228.17	197.02	229.94	173.54	216.41	202.80	180.13	186.20	218.07		
Sep.,15	219.31	231.79	199.44	240.91	173.90	217.33	203.20	181.71	186.25	218.14		
Oct.,15	220.53	233.19	200.39	240.82	173.91	218.52	203.52	187.27	186.30	219.41		
Nov.,15	220.01	232.04	200.87	241.30	174.42	219.72	203.53	187.40	186.77	219.64		
Dec.,15	220.87	232.02	203.13	245.12	175.63	223.52	206.32	191.17	187.03	219.79		
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		

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: URBAN

(Base Year 2005-06=100)

				1	Index by Ex	penditure Gr	oup			
Period	Generel Index	1. Food & Beverage	2. Non _ Food	I. Clothing & Footwear	II. Fuel & Lighting	III. Household Equipment	IV. Medical Care & Health Expenses	V. Transport & Communication	VI. Recreation, Entertainment,	VII. Misc. Goods & Services
2010-11	151.36	169.68	135.43	133.58	130.30	163.26	139.80	129.72	127.01	146.83
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
Apr.,15	208.90	236.26	185.10	200.96	173.80	225.45	176.74	196.89	151.68	195.84
May,15	206.53	230.85	185.37	201.07	173.82	227.24	177.04	197.03	151.99	196.00
Jun.,15	206.90	231.04	185.90	201.81	174.25	228.25	177.42	197.54	152.13	196.76
Jul.,15	210.63	236.22	188.38	210.50	174.53	232.32	177.96	203.00	152.17	197.47
Aug.,15	212.96	241.03	188.55	210.44	174.67	232.70	178.33	203.31	152.31	197.39
Sep.,15	216.17	245.74	190.44	214.15	176.87	233.04	178.60	206.74	152.40	198.15
Oct.,15	217.93	247.82	191.93	213.90	177.24	233.48	178.68	214.19	152.86	200.30
Nov.,15	218.21	247.76	192.51	214.31	177.47	234.36	178.77	216.57	152.89	200.36
Dec.,15	219.67	247.67	195.31	218.48	180.32	238.74	181.85	220.63	152.93	200.50
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

Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

Wage Rate Index By Sector: Bangladesh

(Base:2010-11=100)

Sector	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	Feb'16	Mar' 16	Apr' 16
General	112.62	118.82	124.69	134.19	134.61	135.02
Percentage change (Point to Point) Percentage change (over previous month)	6.01	5.50	4.94	5.96 0.52	5.93 0.31	6.13 0.31
1. Agriculture	112.08	118.44	124.51	133.85	134.24	134.69
Percentage change (Point to Point) Percentage change(over previous month)	5.78	5.68	5.12	5.87 0.49	6.19 0.29	6.21 0.33
i) Agriculture	112.08	118.40	124.46	133.82	134.21	134.66
Percentage change (Point to Point) Percentage change(over previous month)	5.76	5.64	5.12	5.89 0.49	6.22 0.29	6.23 0.33
ii) Fish	111.89	120.81	126.85	135.50	135.85	136.39
Percentage change (Point to Point) Percentage change(over previous month)	6.55	7.97	5.00	5.23 0.21	4.58 0.26	4.89 0.40
2. Industry	113.43	119.07	124.38	133.25	133.63	134.12
Percentage change (Point to Point) Percentage change(over previous month)	6.08	4.97	4.47	5.47 0.59	4.96 0.29	5.45 0.37
i) Construction	114.70	119.93	124.84	130.94	131.36	131.73
Percentage change (Point to Point) Percentage change(over previous month)	6.87	4.56	4.09	4.49 0.37	4.20 0.32	4.62 0.28
ii) Production	111.53	121.86	127.28	137.92	138.22	138.97
Percentage change (Point to Point) Percentage change(over previous month)	5.19	9.27	4.44	7.37 1.02	6.41 0.22	7.07 0.54
3. Service	113.63	120.16	126.15	137.80	138.38	138.47
Percentage change (Point to Point) Percentage change(over previous month)	6.96	5.75	4.98	7.42 0.60	6.68 0.42	7.18 0.06

Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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बाज के गुर्स क्रामित्र अध्यक्ति अस्ति

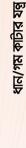






সরাসরি চীন থেকে আমদানীকৃত

ধান/গম কাটার যন্ত্র



কন্বাইন হাৰ্ডেস্টার

<mark>এত্ন কাঁদা পানিতে কাজ করে</mark> খড়ের কোন ক্ষতি হয় না

।<্য**১০**১০ প্রযুক্তির ধান/গম কাটার যন্ত্ <u>সরাসরি ডিয়েতনাম থেকে আমদানীকৃত</u>

১ ঘন্টায় ১০০ শতাংশ জমির ধান/গম কাটা যায় অরজিনাল HONDA ইঞ্জিন

এক মৌদুমেই মূলধন ফেরত

এই মেশিন ব্যবহারে খর্চ সাশুয় হবে ৮৭%

সরাসরি কোরিয়া থেকে আমদানীকৃত

১.৫ ফুট পানিতেও কাজ করে যে কোন জমির জন্য উপযোগী

সহজে পরিবহন যোগ্য

কুষ্টিয়া ০১৭৫৫৫৮২৬০২; ঢাকা ০১৭৩০০১৫৮০৩; ময়মনসিংহ ০১৭১৪১৬৩১৩২; কিশোরগঞ্জ ০১৭৫৫৫৮২৬২০; সিলেট পঞ্চগড় ০১৭৫৫৫৮২৬৩১; ঠাকুরগাঁও ০১৭৫৫৫৮২৬২১; সেতাবগঞ্জ ০১৭৩০০২৪৩৬১; দিনাজপুর ০১৭৫৫৫৫১২০৪; নীলফামারী ০১৭১৪১৬৩২৫৮; রণুর ০১৭১৪১৬৩২০০; নত্তশী ০১৭৩০০২৮৫৭২; বহুড়া ০১৭৩০০২৮৫৭৭; রাজশাহী ০১৭৫৫৫৮২৬২৯; ০১৭৩০০১৫৮১৬; হবিগঞ্জ ০১৭৩০০১৫৮১৯; কুমিল্লা ০১৭১৪১৬৩১৮৫; চট্টগ্রাম ০১৭৩০০২৮৫৭৫; নেয়াখালী ০১৭৫৫৬০৮৪৯০;



व मि जाई प्रटेंत्रम्

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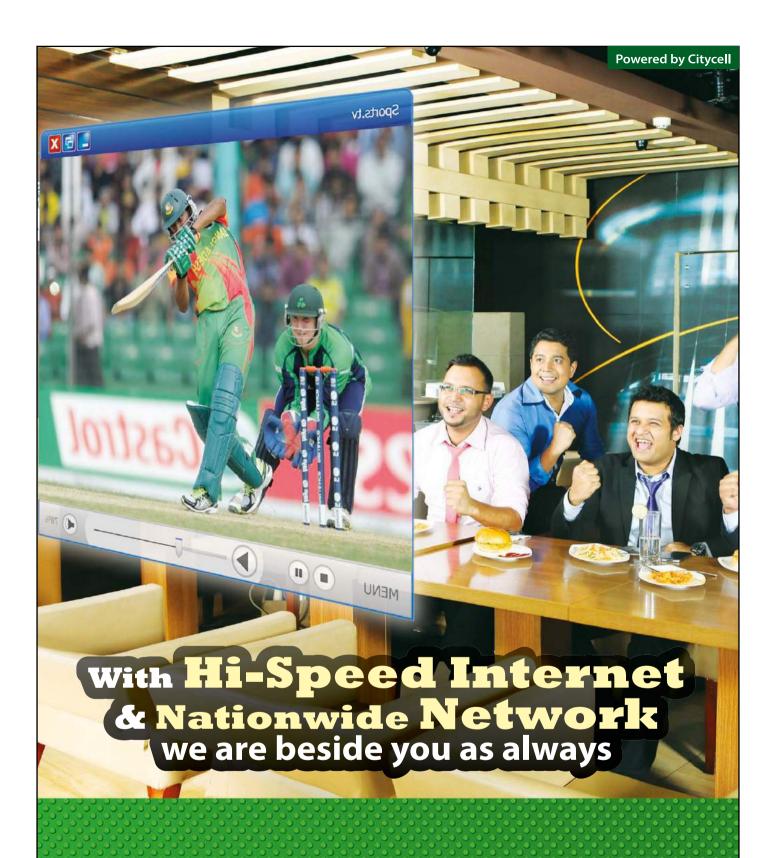
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A BRIEF PROFILE OF MCCI, DHAKA

Founded in 1904, the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka (MCCI) is the oldest and the pre-eminent trade organization of Bangladesh. Its 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 by professional staff. It offers secretarial services to the Bangladesh Employers' Federation (BEF), the lone national level organization of employers in the country dealing with industrial 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 issuing 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 bodies and many private sector organizations located all over the world.