

# CHAMBER NEWS

ISSUE 12 ■ December 2022

## EMBRACING THE ROOFTOP SOLAR SYSTEM IN BANGLADESH



METROPOLITAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY, DHAKA



# নতুন Meril® পেট্রোলিয়াম জেলি শীতে ত্বকের সুরক্ষায় এখন আরো কার্যকর



পণ্যটি কিনতে  
স্ক্যান করুন

স্বাস্থ্য টিমুলেট্রিজ লিমিটেড

## Chamber Building

122-124, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh

Phone : +880-2-223385208-10 & +880-2-223354129-31 (PABX)

Email : sg@mccibd.org, Web : www.mccibd.org



## 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 - ORGANIZATION

- Research based Policy Advocacy
- Networking
- Business Intelligence



## CORE COMPETENCIES – PEOPLE

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

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022

### PRESIDENT

MR. MD. SAIFUL ISLAM

### SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT

MR. KAMRAN T. RAHMAN

### VICE-PRESIDENT

MR. HABIBULLAH N. KARIM

### DIRECTORS

MR. SYED TAREQUE MD. ALI

MR. MOHAMMAD NASER EZAZ BIJOY

MR. TAPAN CHOWDHURY

MS. UZMA CHOWDHURY

DR. ARIF DOWLA

MR. RUBAIYAT JAMIL

MS. NIHAD KABIR

MR. ANIS A. KHAN

MR. ADEEB HOSSAIN KHAN, FCA

MR. HASAN MAHMOOD, FCA

MR. GOLAM MAINUDDIN

MR. SYED NASIM MANZUR

MS. SIMEEN RAHMAN

### SECRETARY-GENERAL & CEO

MR. FAROOQ AHMED

## DISCLAIMER

The Chamber News is published for private circulation by Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka. The Chamber assumes no responsibility for the correctness of items quoted in the bulletin although every effort is made to give information from sources believed to be reliable.



# CONTENTS

Chamber News / Issue 12 / December 2022

## EDITORIAL

03

Embracing the Rooftop Solar System in Bangladesh



## ARTICLE

04

Corporate social responsibility: benefits and strategies

## CHAMBER EVENT

10

MCCI – Silicon Valley seminar on Hi  
Tech opportunities in Bangladesh



## MEMBERS NEWS

11

## CORPORATE NEWS

14

## NATIONAL NEWS

17

BB forms Tk 50.0 billion food security fund



## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

19

## NEW PRODUCTS

21

Wakka key holder



## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

23

A new printable and wearable insect repellent



## COUNTRY PROFILE

24

Thailand



## REVIEW

26

- Export earnings
- Inflows of Remittance
- Foreign Exchange Reserves
- Exchange rate
- Price situation
- Capital market

## STATISTICS

28

- Export performance of Bangladesh
- Fresh opening and settlement of import LCs
- Balance of payments (BOP)
- Production of selected industrial items
- Capital market snapshot
- Consumer price index: national
- Consumer price index: rural
- Consumer price index: urban
- Wage rate index by sectors: Bangladesh

**EDITORIAL****Embracing the Rooftop Solar System in Bangladesh**

Post-pandemic world is facing the steep challenge of rising inflation. The Russia-Ukraine war has pushed up the prices of imported natural gas and oil, the essential raw materials for power generation. This has directly led to an overall global shortage of power, disrupting our daily lives and affecting our industries and productions. Yet, to continue along its development trajectory, Bangladesh must ensure uninterrupted power to face the challenges of the future, including the imminent LDC graduation and SDGs achievements. That is where the industrial rooftop solar system could come very handy.

Bangladesh is expected to rely on solar energy as it is a good recipient of solar radiation. However, 3.5-4 acres of land are needed to install a 1 MW solar power plant. Land shortage is a problem for the country with a large population. There are many open rooftops available, which may help with the problem of solar panel installation space.

To promote the use of open spaces and rooftops for solar energy generation, the government of Bangladesh adopted the Net Metering Guidelines in August 2018. Since then 1,703 businesses and factories in the country have installed rooftop solar systems using the net metering model to cut down on energy costs and carbon emissions. Dhaka Power Distribution Company, Infrastructure Development Company Limited (IDCOL), Rahimafrooz Bangladesh Ltd, and Alpine Technologies are some of the industry's major players. Even though it currently produces only 3% of its electricity from renewable sources, such as solar, wind, and hydropower, the Government hopes to generate 40% of its total electricity from them by 2041.

Rooftop solar systems offer inherent benefits to businesses. The electricity produced by rooftop solar systems is cheaper than that offered by the national grid. If any produced electricity remains unused, it could very well be sold to the national grid. Besides, the installation does not involve paying additional rent for the premises—unused rooftops

are ideal for the installation. This can solve the problem of burgeoning electricity bills. The simple installation procedure and competitive project costs make this a very attractive deal for businesses to explore.

There is one significant challenge that would have to be overcome for this sector to flourish, though. It cannot compete with the gas-based captive-power yet in terms of costs. Gas-fired captive power remains the cheapest way of producing electricity in the country, so customers who have captive power facilities will be reluctant to use rooftop solar panels. Other factors that stand in the way are taxation and policy hindrances. Together, they pose severe challenges for the rooftop solar panel.

To go ahead with it, firms would need to do the long-term cost-benefit analysis. With soaring global energy prices and uncertainties becoming more and more common, the benefits would easily outweigh the costs. Also, installing solar rooftops could reduce the carbon footprint of businesses, something we all would prefer for the greater environment. Embracing solar rooftops on a mass scale, our businesses will become less susceptible to sudden power disruptions. No matter what is happening in some remote corner of the world, whether war has broken out in some other continent, or if the world faces another pandemic, the certainty of uninterrupted and cheaper power supply will remain at our disposal. With such a guarantee, Bangladesh can target becoming the economic powerhouse it aspires to be.

Industrial solar rooftops can pave the way for a future, brand-new Bangladesh. Once the private sector realizes how convenient rooftop solar systems could be, there would be no shortage of demand. The Government and the private sector will have to work together to make this system more convenient for the businesses. It will surely improve the country's cost and ease of doing business. For all, this would bring some positive changes, hence the earlier we embrace this system, the better.

## ARTICLE

## CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY: BENEFITS AND STRATEGIES

**C**orporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is a business initiative that can result in positive outcomes for employees, employers, and many good causes across the globe. Done well, CSR can drastically improve how your business is perceived, engaged with, and help your company's broader mission and vision.

In today's society, corporate social responsibility (CSR) is no longer a nice-to-have; it's a need-to-have.

CSR comes in many forms. Businesses, little or large, are expected to lead the way in creating a progressive CSR program that gives back to people and our planet and one that continuously shifts depending on the current social and economic climate.

Yet, initiating a CSR program can be tricky to do. Winning executive buy-in, assigning responsibilities, and finding the right CSR software are some of the biggest hurdles to jump—that's before you've even locked down your initiative.

First, let's take a quick glance at the major benefits of CSR we'll be covering shortly.

#### What are the benefits of CSR?

1. CSR increases employee engagement
2. CSR improves bottom-line financials
3. CSR supports local and global communities
4. Contributes to the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals
5. Increases investment opportunities
6. Presents press opportunities
7. Increases customer retention and loyalty
8. CSR improves employer branding

#### CSR increases employee engagement

Extensive research proves that CSR and a strong sense of employee purpose actively contribute to increased employee engagement. Employee engagement is not just a KPI to measure CSR effectiveness; it's a positive metric to further other business performance statistics.

Engaged employees have a 17% increase in productivity, are 21% more profitable, and can have 41% lower absenteeism. Innovation also increases in an engaged workplace. Translating this into financials, disengaged employees cost businesses between \$450 and \$550 billion annually.

Giving back to the community is a virtuous circle in which engaged employees are enriched by volunteering opportunities that further engage and encourage them.

Corporate philanthropy engages entire organizations, from marketing executives to operations leaders.

#### CSR improves bottom-line financials

When you're trying to win buy-in from leadership for your CSR program, it often falls to financials. Stakeholders want to know if this project will see a positive ROI. While some numbers are a little long-winded to get to, digital CSR and sustainable initiatives have positively affected business bottom-line.

#### CSR supports local and global communities

For all of the fantastic benefits your business gets from showcasing your CSR initiatives, it can be easy to overlook its reason for being in the first place. CSR gives people the leverage and the platform they need to make a difference in local and global communities.

Companies are often collections of like-minded, talented people working towards a broader vision. If you can find a CSR program that's in line with the company's values, then your business truly has the opportunity to create a substantial positive impact.

TOMS is a fantastic example of how a product-led CSR initiative can support global communities. The TOMS CSR initiative drives their company mission and is at the forefront of their product. The shoe brand has positively impacted close to 100 million lives globally, committed \$6.5 million to impact grants, and provided over 700k weeks of safe water. Now imagine the impact we'll see if more major brands followed suit.

#### Contributes to the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals

Building off our last point and often a great reference for businesses struggling to pick a CSR route to go down. You have the power to take your CSR initiatives global and work toward answering one—or more—of the UN's sustainable development goals.

By creating a CSR push towards answering one of these goals, you'll be joining part of the global "to-do list for people and planet."— UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. It's important your company look to create social impact by limiting its environmental impacts.



### Increases investment opportunities

Today, global sustainable investment is now over \$30 trillion worldwide—up 68% since 2014 and 10x since 2004. At the beginning of 2020, BlackRock Chairman and CEO Larry Fink echoed this in his letter to CEOs, arguing that climate change has become a defining factor in corporations' long-term prospects. The letter explains how the \$7 trillion investment firm will shift toward sustainable investing, putting it on par with financial returns.

*"While governments must lead the way in this transition, companies and investors also have a meaningful role to play."*—BlackRock chairman and CEO Larry Fink

With recent notable investments like Marshall Wace targeting \$1 billion for a brand new green hedge fund that aims to trade shares based on ecological and moral qualities—investment opportunities are making giant leaps toward conscious change.

### Presents press opportunities

Impactful CSR can get excellent press. If your organization is ever struggling to gain online popularity and press interest, your CSR initiative could be your route to market. Creating a CSR program that gets you noticed will see a fantastic boost in your brand awareness and overall online brand affinity.

However, be cautious about the why behind your CSR efforts. CSR that's not authentic has been called greenwashing; if your CSR initiative seems too out of line with your mission and values, people can question its purpose, even though it comes with good intent.

Research has shown that employee beliefs behind CSR initiatives can impact workplace attitudes, trust in top management, organization pride, job satisfaction, and even performance. Your employees are your biggest brand ambassadors—lead with authenticity, and authentic press opportunities will soon follow.

### Increases customer retention and loyalty

Excellent CSR gives a company a chance to showcase consistency and win loyalty, which ultimately converts into customer retention and increased sales. It dates back to Cialdini's six principles of persuasion and proves to be a fantastic way for businesses to showcase they're trustworthy.

Research shows that 87% of Americans are more likely to buy a product from a company that they can align their values with, and over half of all consumers are willing to pay extra for a product if they're buying from a company with a sturdy CSR strategy.

Have faith in your CSR initiative, and ensure they align with your customers' values. In doing so, your customers will place their trust in your business and remain loyal to your shared mission.

### CSR improves employer branding

Last on our list, but certainly not least, is the employer branding benefits that good CSR initiatives can generate.

It can be a struggle to attract and retain talent. Still, research has shown that 82% of Gen Z workers consider CSR a significant factor when deciding on their next employer, and 66% would consider a pay cut if it meant working for a more socially responsible company.

However, it doesn't stop at the younger generations. LinkedIn found that 75% of candidates research a company's online reputation before applying for a role. Plus, CR Magazine found that 75% of Americans would not take a job with a company with a poor corporate responsibility reputation.

Need more convincing? 92% of all employees would consider leaving their role if presented with an offer by a company with an excellent corporate reputation.

Don't underestimate the benefits of a good CSR initiative can do for your recruitment and staff retention strategies.

### 3 Businesses using CSR to benefit growth

Since we've covered some of the benefits of a corporate social responsibility initiative, let's dive into a few brands doing it best.

#### Google



The #BlackLivesMatter campaign highlighted the injustices black-founded business owners face every day. Just 1% of black women receive funding for their ventures as opposed to 77% of their white counterparts. Shocking numbers like these saw industry giants like Google react with CSR initiatives—and applauded for it.

In 2020, Google announced startup accelerators for black-female-led businesses and invested \$175 million toward economic opportunity for black business owners, founders, and job seekers.

Google's commitment to racial equality has landed them some excellent press coverage from the likes of The Verge, HypeBeast, and The Washington Post, to name a few. Overall, this has supported their corporate responsibility and employer brand reputation, helping them win more qualified applicants in the future.

**Johnson & Johnson** – The skill-sharing CSR initiative winning employee engagement



In Switzerland, Johnson & Johnson's employee engagement program, Talent for Good, saw eight skill-sharing missions across four NGOs implemented with Alaya.

This effort to do good has resulted in huge interest from their Swiss team, a constant stream of applications, and positive feedback. It's also helped employees develop their professional skills—doubling down the benefit for employees and nonprofits.

**Lego** – The global impact CSR initiative winning loyalty



Ranked as the world's most reputable company in 2020 by Reptrak, the children's building blocks business continues to go from strength to strength. The Lego Group is the perfect

example of how you can turn any business model into a purpose-driven, sustainable-orientated business.

The business focuses on three core areas; children, the environment, and people, and they are continually finding innovative ways to give back to and support the growth of these areas.

*"Every day, employees at the LEGO Group are empowered to make decisions to do what's right for children, our fans, our partners, the environment, and our local communities."*— Niels B. Christiansen, CEO.

Their mission to do what's right for the planet and limit their contribution to environmental change has not only landed them the number one as the world's most reputable company but has won them substantial customer loyalty. 57% of consumers say they would buy from The Lego Company—this result is over 13% higher than other top-ranking reputable companies.

### 8 Simple Steps to Create a CSR Strategy in 2022

Corporate Social Responsibility CSR is becoming a core business strategy for many companies. It's proven to increase customer loyalty, retain employees, increase the bottom line, and all while doing incredible things for the world.

#### What is a CSR strategy?

A corporate social responsibility strategy (CSR) is the total plan a business has to build, execute and optimize its social responsibilities initiatives.

There are four types of CSR categories, and a CSR strategy helps you define which one is best for your business, ways in which you can implement it, and track the results of your efforts.

The four areas of CSR are:

- Philanthropic responsibility
- Environmental responsibility
- Ethical responsibility
- Economic responsibility

A good CSR strategy builds a business case around how your chosen areas of CSR can integrate into your business growth plan, and makes sure that your initiative stays on track, hitting every KPI along the way.

#### Why is a CSR strategy important?

A CSR strategy is essential to ensure your business delivers effective corporate social responsibility initiatives. Having a



CSR strategy enables your business to remain goal-driven for CSR, and to know what success looks like for your initiatives.

Your CSR strategy can thread into your business growth plan. When you create a CSR strategy you align CSR with other business goals like improving employee engagement, increasing investor appeal, and solidifying your brand reputation. CSR done well can indirectly (positively) affect a number of ROI-centered goals.

### How does CSR integrate into business strategy?

Linking your CSR strategy to your company's purpose and values is vital. Once you've identified them, this will enable you to align your CSR strategy to it. You can then show how it's contributing to your long-term strategy and support continued investment in your CSR program.

Here are a few different ways CSR can integrate into business strategy. It depends on your company's needs and goals. Look at your company's strategic goals to help you shape your CSR strategy, for example, whether it's to have an impact, engage or retain employees, or engage consumers.

CSR can help with employee retention and employer branding, so can be aligned with your Human Resources strategy. It's also shown to increase customer retention and loyalty.

In fact, 68% of online consumers in the U.S. and UK would consider ending a relationship with a brand because of poor or misleading CSR. It can therefore integrate into your sales growth strategy or customer success strategy.

Or, if your business is seeking investment, then trends are showing that companies with global sustainable development strategies are more likely to win investment opportunities.

The truth is, CSR can actively help a business work toward a larger profit margin while doing great things; it's a win-win.

### Who decides the CSR strategy?

A CSR strategy is not built by one person alone. A collective of productive heads is much better than one. However, the project certainly needs one core manager to lead the way, assign responsibilities and ensure everyone stays on track.

Some companies have a CSR department, and some assign CSR to Human Resources teams or Office Managers. Depending on your goals of using CSR, it can also be the responsibility of marketing or communications teams.

Deloitte found that CSR is now a "CEO-level business strategy—defining the organization's very identity" and 46% of survey respondents said "CEOs and top executives play the most prominent roles in driving societal impact," or are the main drivers of CSR strategies.

## How to Create a successful CSR Strategy

Let's dive into the thick of it. Above, we looked at what a Corporate Social Responsibility strategy is, here are the steps you need to take to ensure your strategy runs smoothly.

### Define the concept

Especially today, CSR can mean many different things to different people. It depends on someone's culture and past experiences with CSR that will determine their opinion and definition of it.

At this stage, it's important to speak to and understand all stakeholders' concerns; leadership, employees, consumers, professional organizations or unions, local communities, or environmental groups. Once you've understood concerns, you can consider where there is a match, and how your CSR program can address these.

Define or redefine what CSR means to your business, and make sure the entire business is on the same page. Once you know everyone understands what CSR is, then you can start discussing it without bias or misconceptions.

### Understand the benefits for social

Before your CSR strategy even begins, you need to get the project approved, and to do that requires buy-in from internal stakeholders.

It's important to spend a lot of time researching the benefits of CSR and find some example businesses that have profited from having a successful CSR plan in place.

Once you have an idea of the ways you can benefit from CSR, this will help guide your business case—spoiler alert for step three—to one that is more specific for your business.

### Get project approval



You may have seen this one coming, but launching a CSR plan does require a certain amount of budget and human resources from your business. You can certainly use tools to

optimize the CSR experience, however, until you get to that point you're going to need people power.

Put together a business case for implementing a CSR strategy and make sure you include all of the potential benefits a unique CSR initiative can bring to your business.

Your business case doesn't need to include the initiative you're going to be launching or even the tools and people needed to create success. It needs to be broader, cover what CSR can do for your business, and the initial resources required to kick the project off.

#### Set project goals

Next up on your list for implementing and launching a CSR plan is setting goals. These goals and KPIs showcase your strategy is positively impacting your business, and that your CSR project is on track.

In the early stages, they can be anything from winning board member buy-in, have 100% of employees understand what CSR is, host 3-5 meetings with potential CSR SaaS providers, *ahem* we're right here, to name a few.

Further down the line, they can be more KPI-orientated like employee engagement rates, online brand sentiment, or lower customer churn.

All of these goals are designed around making progress to launching.

#### Run a current CSR analysis

A current analysis includes a full review of any CSR initiative you currently have running, be it officially or unofficially, within your company.

Perhaps employees have set up their form of a socially responsible initiative that can be something bigger with new support from the company. For example, fundraisers like bake sales, community running groups, volunteering days, in-office recycling, meat-free Fridays, or eliminating single-use plastics.

Or, perhaps there are small acts of kindness floating around the office that inspire a broader initiative idea. For example, an employee of the month award, team brunches, budding office plant life or wellbeing initiatives.

If you've been hosting CSR initiatives for a while, but they just haven't been taking off, then look at the project tools and communication styles you're using to support it. Perhaps there are some operational changes to the cause you can introduce to help it run smoother.

Try to identify what may be the problem with the current solutions you have and find new ways to approach the problem. Look at all of your current areas of CSR and note down what you currently have. Bring these pieces together to form your strategy – so that they connect to what your employees are interested in and the broader business strategy, including long-term goals.

#### Research your CSR initiatives

You have the benefits of what CSR can bring to your business, you've won company buy-in, now it's time to find your initiative and digital CSR tools.

This stage includes researching social and environmental initiatives you think will be a good fit for your company's mission and vision and those that answer employees' values.

Corporate Social Responsibility research also includes looking at the initiatives of others in your industry. How are other businesses aligning CSR to their company purpose? It could inspire some great ideas or possible collaborations of your own.

Lastly, this step includes different tools you may need to support your CSR efforts. Consider technology that empowers your employees to take the initiative and communication tools to help stay on top of everything.

#### Launch your CSR campaign



Once you've done all of the above, you should be in a comfortable position to launch your CSR campaign— it's potentially the most important part of your CSR plan.

You get one shot at launching it as effectively as possible, so it's time to make it count. Your CSR launch needs to be communicated clearly to the right stakeholders; this includes:

- Employees
- Shareholders or investors
- External stakeholders, partners, & local communities

- Press
- Customers
- Fans and followers

Make sure that each of these groups has a clear communication plan and priority so that your initiative launches with maximum impact. For example, your employees need to know the ins and outs of your initiative before your fans and followers.

Manage your program to success

Last on your list is the maintenance of your CSR campaign or campaigns. What KPIs or goals have you set? Consider all types of goals.

For example, if your initiative was to plant 100 trees by planting one for every time an employee took a bike to work instead of driving, then consider every goal around this goal.

- How many trees have you planted?
- How many individual employees have biked to work?
- Has your employee engagement rate and happiness increased?

Consider your larger Corporate Social Responsibility mission, but also consider the smaller KPIs and data points that help you get there.

It's also a good idea to collect qualitative feedback alongside quantitative feedback. Ask employees how they're feeling about your CSR initiatives. If they're not engaging, then how can you adapt them to make them more relatable, offer them more choice, and win employees' interest?

### CSR Strategy best practices

When creating your corporate social responsibility strategy, there are a few best practices to help make the process smoother and more efficient.

**Define your WHY:** Your corporate social responsibility strategy needs a reason for being. From day one, align on the purpose and vision for the strategy. It will help define every step you make in its creation.

**Assemble a stellar team:** Efficient CSR initiatives need top talent to get them on the way. Assemble an internal team from multiple departments to help you build this strategy. Socially responsible companies start with socially responsible employees.

**Ask for feedback:** For CSR programs to be successful you'll need feedback. This comes from your employees. Ask employees what they would like to see from potential CSR programs, and understand the social or environmental challenges they're passionate about.

**Strategize & benchmark:** It's time to look toward socially responsible companies for guidance. All of the best CSR leaders had to start somewhere. Look at ethical business practices that are working well for similar companies, understand their successful CSR initiatives, and benchmark your own corporate strategy against them.

**Soft launch:** A strategic corporate social responsibility launch needs to be released in phases. Align your internal CSR leaders on the launch calendar and start with a soft launch. This acts like market feedback research and gives your team time to adjust your strategy accordingly.

**Launch with a stellar campaign:** It's time to join the socially responsible companies out there that are leading the way. If you've followed our steps and best practices your CSR strategy should give your business a competitive advantage against other brands and you can start enjoying social or environmental benefits, and eventually will see a result in your financial performance.

Source: <https://alayagood.com/guide>



## CHAMBER EVENT

**MCCI – SILICON VALLEY SEMINAR ON HI TECH OPPORTUNITIES IN BANGLADESH**

The Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka (MCCI) jointly with the veterans of the Semiconductor Industry from Silicon Valley, California, USA organized a seminar on developing Semiconductor Industry ecosystem in Bangladesh on 01 December 2022. Silicon Valley veterans led by Dr. Yusuf Haque, Chief Technology Officer and Co Founder, Exo Imaging, USA participated at the seminar. A six-member MCCI panel led by Mr. Md. Saiful Islam, President of the Chamber took part in the seminar while Mr. Habibullah N. Karim, the Vice President moderated the program. Dr. Mashiur Rahman, Hon'ble Economic Affairs Adviser to the Hon'ble Prime Minister attended the seminar as the Chief Guest while Mr. NM Zeaul Alam PAA, Senior Secretary, Information and Communication Technology Division attended as the Special Guest. Mr. Anis A. Khan, the immediate past Senior Vice President of the Chamber concluded the seminar with a vote of thanks.

## MEMBERS NEWS

### IDLC FINANCE LIMITED



IDLC Finance Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Chattogram Maa-O-Shishu Hospital on 21 November 2022 to donate Tk10 million in support of establishing a dedicated chemotherapy unit in the hospital. The Head of Agrabad branch of IDLC, A N M Zahid Hossain, and the General Secretary of the Chattogram Maa-O-Shishu Hospital, Mohammad Rezaul Karim Azad signed the MoU on behalf of their respective organizations. The contribution is made to support underprivileged cancer patients to have access to expensive treatments at a low cost. The chemotherapy unit will include a chemotherapy mixture, infusion pump, beds, air conditioner, humidifier, suction, defibrillator, monitor, syringe pump, etc. "We are very grateful to IDLC Finance for their outstanding support and we are pleased to announce that the Chemotherapy Unit will be named after IDLC," said Mohammad Rezaul Karim Azad.

### STANDARD CHARTERED BANGLADESH



Standard Chartered Bangladesh (SCB) recently disbursed the prestigious Governor Scholarship to 20 top students from the Department of Development Studies and 60 top students from the Department of Economics of Dhaka University. Standard Chartered Bangladesh has been a steward of the Governor Scholarship, a merit and need-based reward that is given to students in recognition of their strong academic performance, for over a decade. To disburse the scholarships, SCB hosted an event at the University of Dhaka where Abu Farah Md Nasser, Deputy Governor, Bangladesh Bank, attended as the Chief Guest. Mohammed Naser Ezaz Bijoy, Chief Executive Officer, SCB, Bitopi Das Chowdhury, Head of Corporate Affairs, Brand & Marketing, SCB, Professor Md Ziaur Rahman, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, Professor Dr MM Akash, Chairman, Department of Economics, and Professor Rashed Al Mahmud Titumir, Chairman, Department of Development Studies were also present.

## LAFARGEHOLCIM BANGLADESH



LafargeHolcim Bangladesh launched a new cement brand "Supercrete Plus": the best fair face cement in Bangladesh with enhanced strength capability. "Supercrete Plus" gives the best outcome for fair face construction and the strength enhancing technology ensures long term durability. Supercrete Plus can be used for fair facing interior/exterior surface, general concreting and plastering for slab, beam, column, high rise buildings etc. It protects walls from ultraviolet rays and keeps the house cool. Besides, it brings durability and an elegant look to structures. In this connection, a product unveiling ceremony was held at a city hotel on 6 November 2022 where Rajesh Surana, CEO of LHBL joined virtually and unveiled the new product. Dr Raquib Ahsan, Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, BUET and internationally acclaimed architect Professor Rafiq Azam presented the keynote during the launching event where more than 200 distributors, prominent structural engineers and architects from different parts of the country were present.

## BERGER PAINTS BANGLADESH LIMITED



Berger Paints Bangladesh Limited recently launched its new product 'Mr Expert Damp Guard' under the waterproofing category to protect home against any kind of damage caused by damp and efflorescence. Berger has come up with the range to offer a waterproofing solution for both interior and exterior walls. In this regard, a launching event was held at Le Méridien Dhaka on 16 November 2022. Arifin Shuvoo, the Brand Ambassador of Mr Expert Damp Guard; Rupali Chowdhury, Managing Director of Berger Paints Bangladesh Limited; Mohsin Habib Chowdhury, Chief Sales and Marketing Officer; Abul Kasem Mohammad Sadeque Nawaj, Chief Business Officer; Tanzeen Ferdous Alam, Chief Marketing Officer, along with other high officials and dealers of Berger Paints Bangladesh Limited, were present at the event.



## BRAC BANK



BRAC Bank and British Council signed an MoU recently to work together for the welfare of students from all age ranges and education mediums. Both the organizations will collaborate on programs like financial literacy for school-going students, study abroad, IELTS expos, and roadshows for higher education. BRAC Bank will run these programs as part of its student banking service -- Agami, and promote financial inclusion and awareness among the youth. M Masud Rana, DMD & CFO of BRAC Bank; Jim O'Neill, Country Exams Director of British Council; Sarwat Reza, Head of Business Development, Examination Services of British Council; Ekram Kabir, Head of Communications; Jabelul Alam, Head of Transaction Banking; Sarah Anam, Head of Deposits & NFB, Retail Banking; and Mehruba Reza, Head of TARA and Agami; were present at the signing ceremony.

## LANKABANGLA FINANCE LIMITED



LankaBangla Finance Limited recently signed an agreement with Dana Fintech, an embedded finance fintech, to launch one-stop Digital Financial Service (DFS) platform for cottage, micro, small and medium enterprises (CMSMEs) and retail customers. Managing Director and CEO of LankaBangla Finance Khwaja Shahriar and Co-founder and CEO of Dana Fintech Gazi Yar Mohammed signed the agreement at LankaBangla's Head Office recently. Under this partnership, LankaBangla will extend digital deposit, BNPL, credit card by digital onboarding and digital loans to underserved CMSMEs and retail customers leveraging Dana's lending infrastructure, covering credit scoring API, digital underwriting, BNPL engine and earned wage platform. LankaBangla will also finance users and merchants of Dana network partners like digital marketplaces and digital wallets.

## CORPORATE NEWS



Eastern Cables, a subsidiary of the Bangladesh Steel & Engineering Corporation (BSEC), returned to profit in the fiscal year 2021-22 after suffering losses in the past four fiscal years. The state-run cable manufacturer raked a profit of Tk 8.98 million in the fiscal year 2021-22 against a loss of Tk 124 million in the FY 2020-21. As a result, earnings per share rose to Tk 0.34 for FY22 from a loss of Tk 4.68 per share in the previous year. The company reported net asset value per share of Tk 344.06 and net operating cash flow per share (NOCFPS) of Tk 0.45 for the year ended 30 June 2022 against Tk 10.42 and Tk 8.14 respectively for the same period of the previous year. The Board of Directors of the company, located in Chattogram, recommended 2.0 percent cash dividend for the year ended 30 June 2022. The biggest cable and conductor manufacturer in Bangladesh, Eastern Cables produces PVC insulated and PVC sheathed single-core and multi-core low-tension domestic cables. The production line also includes electric controls and aluminum conductors.



**Meghna Cement Mills Ltd.**

Meghna Cement Mills, a concern of Bashundhara Group, gained Tk 55.87 million in profit in the fiscal year (FY)22 ended in June 2022, a turnaround from Covid-induced losses the year before. The company suffered losses amounting to Tk 24.60 million in FY21. Incorporated in 1992, Meghna Cement Mills is the first manufacturing unit of Bashundhara Group and it is one of the largest cement makers in the country. Meghna Cement produces portland composite cement and ordinary portland cement under the King Brand portfolio. The Board of Directors of the company recommended 5 percent cash and 5 percent stock dividends for FY22, the same as for the previous fiscal year.



Associated Oxygen Limited, which produces gas products for the last three decades, decided to issue a convertible bond worth Tk 2.50 billion for its business expansion. Associated

Oxygen, incorporated in 1990, signed a fund arrangement agreement with Janata Capital and Investment Ltd as its fund arrangers. However, the bond issuance is subject to the approval of the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission and the shareholders of the company in the next annual general meeting. The company raised Tk 150 million under the fixed price method from the capital market to expand its business in 2020. Its paid-up capital is Tk 1.09 million and authorized capital is Tk 1.10 billion while the total number of securities is 109.78 million.



**পূবালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড**  
**PUBALI BANK LIMITED**

British International Investment (BII), the UK's development finance institution and impact investor, announces a \$50 million loan to Pubali Bank Limited. The loan facility will help increase climate-related lending and boost climate mitigation projects across Bangladesh. This green loan from BII will primarily be used for projects in the renewable energy, green buildings, textile and manufacturing sectors. The facility will enable Pubali Bank to extend climate finance loans to its portfolio of corporate clients in such sectors, enabling them to purchase key equipment required in climate projects and implement climate-related technological solutions in Bangladesh. BII will also provide a Technical Assistance package which will further strengthen Pubali's rapidly growing sustainable finance franchise.



British American Tobacco Bangladesh Company (BATBC) gained more than 39 percent growth year-on-year in profit for the third quarter through September, leading to 100 percent cash interim dividend. The remarkable growth was possible for a steep rise in sales volume. During the time, the operating profit jumped 32.65 percent to Tk 8.08 billion, and earnings per share went higher by 39.26 percent to Tk 7.59. Earnings, however, declined when compared to the previous quarters--- Tk 9.20 in the second quarter and Tk 7.73 in the first quarter of this year. Tax-efficient business practices also helped the firm lower its effective tax rate from 48.4 percent to 46.1 percent. Sponsor-directors held 72.91 percent shares, government 0.64 percent, institutes 12.62 percent, and individual investors 7.28 percent as of 30 September 2022.



The net profit of Olympic Industries Limited slumped to nearly Tk 1.21 billion in fiscal year (FY) 2021-22, the lowest in seven years, dented by higher production cost and rising raw materials prices. The country's leading biscuit maker reported a profit after tax of Tk 1.21 billion for the year ended on 30 June 2022, down 41 percent from the previous year's net profit of Tk 2.04 billion. Accordingly, its earnings per share (EPS) dropped to Tk 6.03 in FY 2021-22, against Tk 10.19 in the last fiscal year. This year's net profit was the lowest in seven years since FY 2015-16, when the company's net profit was Tk 1.62 billion. The company's sales, however, rose 19 percent to Tk 21.44 billion in FY 2021-22, up from Tk 18.03 billion in the previous fiscal year. The cost of raw materials, including oil, sugar and flour rose significantly but the price of finished products remained almost the same, which ultimately impacted the profits.



Linde Bangladesh, a leading medical and industrial gas producer, reported a 23 percent year-on-year drop in net profits for the third quarter of 2022, driven mainly by a sharp revenue fall in its healthcare segment and higher raw material prices. The company's net profit stood at Tk 210.54 million for July-September 2022, down from Tk 273.79 million in the same quarter last year. Costlier raw materials and the volatile foreign exchange market narrowed the profit margin while the demand for medical oxygen, Linde's main product, fell sharply as the pandemic waned pushing down revenue. The company's paid-up capital is Tk 152.18 million, the authorized capital is Tk 200 million, and the total number of securities 15.21 million. Sponsor-directors owned 60 percent stake in the company while institutional investors 28.80 percent and individual investors 11.20 percent until September this year.



IDLC Finance, one of the leading non-bank financial institutions, reported a 30 percent year-on-year fall in profit in the third quarter of 2022, due to low income from investment. The company's consolidated profit after tax was nearly Tk 392 million for July-September 2022, down from Tk 558 million in the same quarter last year. As a result, earnings per share

dropped from Tk 1.34 to Tk 0.94, despite a 14 percent revenue growth during the same quarter. The company's investment income dropped 80 percent year-on-year to Tk 64.68 million in July-September 2022. Income from commission, exchange and brokerage declined significantly, bringing down its total operating income to Tk 1.54 billion in July-September 2022, down from Tk 1.77 billion in the same quarter last year. Provision for loans, advances and investments fell by Tk 280 million, and net interest income increased by Tk 448 million during the period. Net profit fell 17.61 percent year-on-year to Tk 1.31 billion for January-September 2022. The company's paid-up capital is Tk 152.18 million, the authorized capital is Tk 200 million, and the total number of securities 15.21 million.



Beximco Pharmaceuticals witnessed a 4.7 percent drop in net profit in the first quarter (Q1) of the current financial year on the back of higher raw materials costs and sharp depreciation of local currency against the US dollar. The drug maker's profit after tax stood at Tk 1.41 billion in July-September of fiscal year (FY) 2022-23, against Tk 1.48 billion in the same quarter of the previous fiscal year. As a result, the company's earnings per share (EPS) dropped to Tk 3.24 this quarter from Tk 3.28 for July-September of FY '22. However, the company's sales surged as revenue grew almost 16 percent year-on-year to Tk 9.79 billion in Q1 of FY '23. The company's paid-up capital is Tk 4.46 billion, authorized capital is Tk 15 billion, while the total number of securities is 446.11 million.



Renata Limited, the pharmaceutical company recorded a profit of Tk 1.24 billion in July-September of the fiscal year 2022-23, down from Tk 1.38 billion in the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year. Its profit declined because of 14 percent higher expenses because of the escalating prices of raw materials and a significant depreciation of local currency against the dollar. As a result, its consolidated earnings per share (EPS) fell to Tk 11.62 for the quarter from Tk 12.90 a year ago. The consolidated net operating cash flow per share also went down to Tk 9.59 in the July-September quarter from Tk 14.80 in the same quarter last fiscal year. The company's sales, however, rose 10.56 percent year-on-year to Tk 8.37 billion in the first quarter of FY23. The company's paid-up capital is Tk 1.07 billion and authorized capital is Tk 2.50 billion while the total number of securities is 107.19 million.





The Infrastructure Development Company Limited (IDCOL), under a recent agreement, extended Tk 2.70 billion long-term loan to Crown Cement PLC. Under this facility, IDCOL is providing a concessional loan to establish the 6th manufacturing unit of Crown Cement. This new unit will integrate Vertical Roller Mill (VRM) technology which happens to be the most energy-efficient technology in the cement manufacturing industry. The VRM is expected to save 163 GWh energy compared to traditional ball mills over the loan tenure. IDCOL has so far extended financing worth Tk 13.70 billion to various industrial sectors for promoting different energy efficient initiatives.



Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) approved the proposal of IPDC Finance Limited to raise Tk 1.50 billion by issuing subordinate bond to strengthen their capital base and facilitate future growth. As per the regulatory condition, the bond will be listed with the bourses' alternative trading boards (ATBs). The coupon rate of IPDC Finance's non-convertible and fully redeemable bond will range between 7.50 per cent and 10 per cent. The company will issue the bonds to institutional investors and high-net-worth individuals through private placements. The fund will be utilized to strengthen the company's Tier-II capital base.



Sonali Aansh Industries declared a 100 percent stock dividend for fiscal 2021-22, the highest since its listing with the stock market, to expand its paid-up capital, a requirement set by Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC). The security regulator last December asked 64 companies to increase their capital to at least Tk 300 million by June this year. Sonali Aansh's paid-up capital stands at Tk 27.12 million. It has reported a staggering 247 percent profit growth year-on-year to Tk 10.64 million in FY22. As a result, earnings per share jumped to Tk 3.92 from Tk 1.13 for the year. The company's board has also decided to enhance the authorized capital to Tk 500 million from existing Tk 100 million, subject to the

approval of the shareholders at the annual general meeting. Sponsor-director held 50.78 percent stakes, while institutional investors 5.63 percent and general investors 43.59 percent until the end of October this year.



Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) approved the proposal of Premier Bank Limited to raise Tk 6.0 billion by issuing subordinate bonds through private placements to strengthen its Tier-II capital base. The coupon rate of the bond will be 7.0 percent to 9.0 percent and the offer price will be Tk 6.0 million per unit. Delta Brac Housing Finance Corporation and UCB Investment are working as the trustee and lead arrangers of the Premier Bank's subordinate bonds.



Jamuna Bank Ltd will establish an exchange house in Spain to bring foreign remittance to Bangladesh through the banking channel. The bank received approval from the Bangladesh Bank to that end. The 100 percent-owned exchange house will be named Jamuna Money Transfer SL, Spain with a paid-up capital of 125,000 euros, subject to compliance with some conditions. The bank reported consolidated earnings per share of Tk 1.02 for July-September 2022, down from Tk 1.23 a year ago. For the nine months through September, its consolidated EPS stood at Tk 4.06, which increased from Tk 3.87 in the same period the year before.



Air Astra, the country's newest private airline, operated its maiden flight at full capacity from Dhaka to Cox's Bazar on 24 November 2022. Air Astra will operate three flights on the Dhaka-Cox's Bazar-Dhaka route and two flights on the Dhaka-Chattogram-Dhaka route. The airline will launch flights on all domestic routes in the country in phases. The minimum one-way fare, from Dhaka to Cox's Bazar, was set at Tk 4,800 and Dhaka-Chattogram Tk 3,695. Air Astra has already taken delivery of two ATR 72-600 aircraft in Dhaka and two more aircraft are scheduled to be delivered within 2022. By 2023, Air Astra's fleet will grow to 10 aircraft.

## NATIONAL NEWS

### BB FORMS TK 50.0 BILLION FOOD SECURITY FUND



Bangladesh Bank(BB) formed a refinance scheme of Tk 50.0 billion to boost food production and strengthen the country's food security. Under the scheme, farmers can take loans from this fund at a 4.0 percent interest rate. They can borrow from this fund for a maximum of 18 months with a grace period of three months. Bangladesh Bank issued a circular in this regard and sent it to top executives of all banks.

### RENEWAL PERIOD OF IMPORT-EXPORT LICENSES EXTENDED

The Ministry of Commerce recently approved the extension of renewal period of existing licenses or registrations of the importers and exporters for enhancing ease of doing business. In a circular issued by the ministry, the validity of the existing import registration certificate (IRC) and export registration certificate (ERC) has been fixed up to five years instead of the previous one year. The circular also said that the concerned applicant can take IRC or ERC for any tenure from 1-5 years as required.

### BULK POWER PRICE HIKED



The price of electricity at the wholesale level has been increased by 19.92 percent with effect from December 2022. Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) chairman announced the new power tariffs at a virtual press conference recently. With the hike the weighted average bulk-electricity

tariffs increased to Tk 6.20 per unit (1 kilowatt-hour) from previous Tk 5.17 per unit.

### 178 GREEN FACTORIES IN THE COUNTRY



Two new readymade garment factories, operating under Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and Exporters' Association, have received LEED certification from United States Green Building Council. The green certified factories are Barnali Collections Limited from Narayanganj, with 64 points out of 110, and Bangladesh Export Import Company Limited from Gazipur, with 85 points out of 110.

### LC OPENING HALVES IN SIX MONTHS

The number of LCs opened in the country halved in the last six months due to various conditions imposed on the import of products to preserve the country's dollar reserves. The amount of imports to the country has been decreasing continuously since April this year. LCs involving \$9.80 billion were opened in the country in March this year, which decreased to \$8.42 billion in April. Since then the volume of LCs has been decreasing steadily. In September, LCs involving \$6.51 billion were opened in the country. Then there was a sharp drop in October, when LCs involving \$4.72 billion were opened.

### 72 COMPANIES RECEIVE NATIONAL EXPORT TROPHIES

Some 72 companies received the National Export Trophy for the fiscal year (FY) 2018-19 for their outstanding contribution to the country's export sector. Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi handed over the trophies to recipient companies as the chief guest at a trophy-giving ceremony, held at the Bangabandhu Bangladesh-China Friendship Exhibition Center. Some 29 gold, 24 silver and 18 bronze trophies were given to the business enterprises. Besides, Rifat Garments Ltd. (Ha-meem Group) received the 'Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Exports Trophy' meant for the best export company.

## LNG IMPORT TO GO UP 25% IN DECEMBER

Bangladesh will increase liquefied natural gas (LNG) import by around 25 percent in December 2022 compared to its November and October imports respectively to feed growing demand for natural gas in industries, despite financial tightening. The government will import a total of five LNG cargoes from long-term suppliers during December against its import of four LNG cargoes each during October and November. Fed on the higher imports, the quantity of re-gasified LNG will increase to around 460 million cubic feet per day (mmcf) from the current 380mmcf. Increased LNG imports will boost the country's overall natural gas output and satisfy the country's business communities who have been in a crying need for augmented overall natural-gas supply to keep their factories operational.

## BB INJECTS \$6 BILLION INTO MARKET SO FAR THIS FISCAL YEAR

The amount of US dollar injected into the market so far by Bangladesh Bank has surpassed \$6 billion in the current fiscal year, creating further pressure on the country's foreign exchange reserves that are now depleting fast. Bangladesh Bank supplied dollars to the market to the tune of \$6.03 billion between July 1 and November 23 in order to help lenders clear import bills. The central bank injected a record \$7.62 billion last fiscal year with a view to keeping the exchange rate stable.

## NBR PLANS TO INSTALL 60,000 EFD, SDC IN ONE YEAR

The National Board of Revenue (NBR) planned to install 60,000 electronic fiscal devices (EFDs) and sales data controllers (SDC) at retail shops across the country in a year as part of its plan to install 3,00,000 EFD and SDC in five years. In this regard, the NBR signed an agreement with Genex Infosys Limited on the implementation of the project. According to the agreement, Genex Infosys will install 3,00,000 devices in three zones in Dhaka and Chattogram in five years. In the first phase, the company will install 20,000 devices in each zone in a year and 1,00,000 devices in each zone in five years.

## BB OKAYS MFS PROVIDERS TO BRING REMITTANCE DIRECTLY

Bangladesh Bank has allowed mobile financial service (MFS) providers to bring inward remittance, in order to increase remittance inflow. The foreign exchange policy department of Bangladesh Bank issued a circular in this regard. According to the circular, authorized dealers can make drawing arrangements directly with exchange houses abroad without prior permission from Bangladesh Bank. Authorized dealers are also allowed to go for drawing arrangements without

letters of reference or certificates from the Bangladesh embassy or high commission of the respective country.

In order to bring wider flexibility, MFS providers will be allowed to repatriate wage earners' remittance in association with internationally recognized online payment gateway service providers, banks, digital wallets, card schemes, and aggregators abroad, said the Bangladesh Bank notification. In this context, MFS providers must have standing arrangements with foreign PSPs to receive foreign currency in their account, and equivalent taka value will be credited to the wage earners' MFS accounts.

Subsequently, foreign PSPs will provide credit to the designated dealer's Nostro account (an account that a bank holds in a foreign currency in another bank). After receiving the amount in taka, wage earners' can use the MFS account from abroad to do all transactions in Taka.

Mobile financial services who want to provide repatriation services have to apply to Foreign Exchange Policy Department by 31 December 2022, with details of proposed arrangements in accordance with the framework outlined above or similar conducive procedures.

## FOREIGN FIRMS, JVS IN EZs PERMITTED TO TAKE LOANS IN TAKA

Bangladesh Bank (BB) has allowed foreign firms and joint ventures (JVs) located in the economic zones (EZs) to take working capital loans in taka from the domestic banking system for their operations catering for the local market. To further meet their working capital needs, it has been decided that Type A and Type B industrial enterprises operating for marketing their products in the domestic market only and with no sources of income in foreign currencies are allowed to access working capital loans in the taka from the local banking system, as per a BB circular issued recently. Firms with 100 percent foreign ownership are considered 'Type A' and joint venture companies with foreign and Bangladeshi ownership are treated as 'Type B'.



## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### SRI LANKA



Sri Lanka unveils a budget attempting to put the South Asian government's finances in order, with reforms to advance a \$2.9 global billion bailout country's worst financial crisis since independence in 1948. The full-year budget to parliament will include measures aimed at helping Sri Lanka restructure its debt, increase revenues and trim spending as it works on the bailout with the International Monetary Fund. The World Bank estimates Sri Lanka's economy will contract by 9.2 percent this year and 4.2 percent in 2023. The nation of 22 million people plunged into crisis this year as a loss of tourism revenue from the COVID-19 pandemic compounded tax cuts and years of economic mismanagement, leading to a severe dollar drought. Unable to pay for critical imports, Sri Lanka struggled to buy essentials such as fuel, and the public faced soaring inflation, a rapidly depreciating currency and sharply shrinking growth.

### INDONESIA



Indonesia has signed deals with international lenders and major nations that will bring billions of dollars in funding to help the country increase its use of renewable energy and reduce its reliance on coal. The \$20 billion agreement was announced on the sidelines of the Group of 20 summit in Bali, Indonesia. Called a Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP), it is meant to help developing countries reduce their reliance on fossil fuels such as coal and gas that cause carbon emissions that contribute to climate change. It's an important step for Indonesia, a major exporter of coal that has abundant potential for developing cleaner energy. As part of the agreement, Indonesia has pledged to ensure emissions from the country's power sector start falling by 2030. The country has stepped up its goal of making the entire power generation sector emissions-free by 2050.

### BAHRAIN



Bahrain, the smallest oil producer in the Arabian Gulf, made two new gas discoveries amid efforts by the government to boost natural gas production in the country. The new discoveries were made in the unconventional Al Juba and Al Jawf reservoirs, Bahrain News Agency reported, citing an announcement by Bahrain's energy investment and development arm Nogaholding. It did

not provide details on the total estimated reserves of the two new discoveries. In 2018, Bahrain, said it had found up to 20 trillion cubic feet of gas offshore and 80 billion barrels of shale oil, which it hopes to produce in five years with the potential help of international energy companies. Demand for gas has surged in recent years, as top energy-consuming nations focus on cutting emissions to limit global warming and protect the environment.

### CHINA



China's 2022 natural gas consumption may post the first decline in two decades amid a struggling economy, with demand this winter set to rise more modestly than in previous years, a researcher with China National Offshore Oil Company said. Total gas demand is likely to fall 1 percent this year to 363.6 billion cubic meters, which will mark the first annual decline since at least 2002, reports Reuters. Gas consumption this winter is pegged at between 168 to 190 billion cubic meters, a wide range forecast due to uncertainties over weather conditions and economic recovery. China is set to hand back to Japan this year its title as the world's largest importer of liquefied natural gas as protracted Covid-19 curbs and high import costs hampered demand, easing the pressure on tight global supplies amid the Ukraine crisis.



## MALAYSIA



Malaysia's palm oil board warned of a tough 2023 for the market for the world's most consumed edible oil, with the persistence of global uncertainties in weather, geopolitics and economics that have caused wide price swings this year. The edible oils market has grappled with volatility triggered by recession fears, Russia's invasion of Ukraine and governments' curbing exports to protect domestic food supplies. Malaysia's benchmark crude palm oil prices reached a record high of 7,268 ringgit (\$1,586.21) a tonne in March, but prices have tumbled by about 40% since. The balance of supply and demand will be swayed by shifts in weather patterns, the labor situation, currency volatility and policy and geopolitical instability.

## THAILAND



Renewable energy development is key for Thailand to cut its dependency on fossil fuel imports, as gas-based thermal power generation accounted for nearly 61.3% of the country's annual electricity generation in 2021, says GlobalData, a leading data, and analytics company in its latest report. Depleting natural gas reserves and rising fuel import bills have become major challenges for Thailand.

The country's natural gas reserves are expected to decline sharply by 2030 if no new reserves are found. Due to a decline in supplies from the Gulf of Thailand, the share of domestic gas supply in Thailand fell from 64% to 40% in the first half of 2022, leading to an increase in imports of liquefied natural gas (LNG), which, in turn, resulted in high electricity bills for end-consumers.

## JAPAN



Japan's economy unexpectedly shrank for the first time in a year in the third quarter, stoking further uncertainty about the outlook as global recession risks, a weak yen and higher import costs took a toll on household consumption and businesses. The world's third-biggest economy has struggled to motor on despite the recent lifting of COVID curbs, and has faced intensifying pressure from red-hot global inflation, sweeping interest rate increases worldwide and the Ukraine war. Gross domestic product fell an annualized 1.2 percent in July-September, compared with a revised 4.6 percent rise in the second quarter. It translated into a quarterly decline of 0.3 percent, versus a forecast of 0.3 percent growth. On top of being squeezed by a global slowdown and soaring inflation, Japan has been dealing with the challenge of the yen's slide to 32-year lows against the dollar, which has magnified cost-of-living strains by further lifting the price of everything from fuel to food items.

## GERMANY



Germany's economy grew more than previously thought in the third quarter despite high inflation and an energy crisis. Europe's biggest economy expanded by 0.4 percent between July and September 2022 compared to the second quarter — slightly better than the 0.3 percent growth previously calculated by federal statistics agency Destatis. Germany was heavily reliant on Russian gas before the Russia-Ukraine war, and Russia's move to cut off flows through the crucial Nord Stream 1 pipeline has fueled fears of energy shortages and skyrocketing heating bills this winter.

## USA



US jobs growth rose at an unexpectedly rapid clip in October 2022, defying expectations for a larger slowdown. The economy added 261,000 positions in the month, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, more than consensus forecasts of 200,000. The figure was down from an upwardly revised 315,000 in September and 292,000 in August. On average this year, the economy has added 407,000 jobs each month, compared with a monthly increase of 562,000 in 2021. Despite these gains, the unemployment rate ticked up to 3.7 percent, just above its pre-pandemic low.

## NEW PRODUCTS

### WAKKA KEY HOLDER



The biggest reason why we lose important things like keys or even eyeglasses is that we don't have a proper place for them. More often than not, we simply drop them wherever we feel like it and then forget where that convenient yet semi-random location was. Deciding on a single place to leave your keys, however, is just the first step. Developing the habit of actually placing them there and only there is perhaps even more important, and nothing develops habits better than associating with something rewarding, like a welcoming and calming sound whenever you place or remove this metal keyring from its wooden base. Fortunately, the Wakka key holder provides the simple reward. This acoustic keyring is made of two parts. The ring itself is made from polished metal, which gives it a very stylish and luxurious appearance. Instead of a hook, you place the ring on a small dome shape affixed to a wall, probably one near the door. The base is made from either maple or walnut.

### DRAGONFLY



The first thing you'll notice about the Dragonfly is that it has four wheels instead of just two. Like a cross between a scooter and a car, these four wheels, each with 10-inch pneumatic tires, offer better stability and reliability, especially when running on difficult terrain. Powered by two 550W motors, these powerful e-scooters boast top speeds of 25 mph (40 km/h) and a range of 49.7 miles (80 km) on a full charge. Despite that speed, the hyper scooters are still designed with safety and comfort in mind, thanks to a dual wishbone suspension and adjustable hydraulic damped spring suspensions for each wheel. Whether you're zipping through highway traffic or riding through a challenging adventure, the Dragonfly Hydroscooter will get you from A to B quickly and safely.

### THE POD



Whether we plan on eating at the office, having a meal outdoors, or sharing food at a friend's house, we've all come across the joys and sorrows of moving food from one place to another. Extra care has to be taken that the food doesn't spoil while also retaining its ideal temperature, be it hot or cold. The Pod solves all these problems in a form that's no larger than an iPad. Despite its compact size, it can hold around 1,500ml of food without spilling them. Better yet, you can put different foods in different containers, and they each keep to themselves without mixing smells, temperatures, and tastes. Say goodbye to soggy noodles, cold soup, melted ice, and spilled sauces, all thanks to this innovative thermal lunch box with a minimalist style that you can match to your personal tastes.

### HILU



People typically use blankets to keep warm on cold nights but have fewer solutions for warmer ones. Additionally, not all blankets are comfortable in the first place, especially for people with more sensitive skin. Meet HILU, a unique blanket that's made from actual woven graphene fibers with the exclusive Adaptex Technology. It has the unique ability to thermoregulate you while you sleep, giving you warmth in the winters and keeping you cool in the summers. It's soft, but stronger than steel, while also being hypoallergenic, naturally anti-bacterial, and ecofriendly. HILU is able to keep your body temperature at its best, regardless of the room's temperature.

## KRUSH - PORTABLE ICE CREAM MAKER



Designed to be the first portable, wireless ice cream maker, the KRUSH fits into most freezers, whipping up a batch of ice cream on its own. Once the ice cream's ready, the KRUSH's dual-walled insulating design keeps the ice cream frozen for up to 5 hours, letting you carry it anywhere from the kitchen to the bedroom (for a guilty binge) or even to the great outdoors (as an addition to a social picnic plan). The gizmo comes with a three-part design, featuring the churning bucket, an operation window, and the churning head itself. The entire device stands at just 8.5-inches tall and can fit into any traditional freezer. The KRUSH works with all sorts of ingredients and flavors, giving you the satisfaction of home-made ice cream in less than 20 minutes.

## ECO-FRIENDLY PENCIL SHARPENER



When a pencil is sharpened down to one-third of its original size, it becomes difficult to hold. These pencil stubs are typically discarded. The Eco-Friendly Pencil Sharpener has three features that allow pencil stubs to be reused — a conventional pencil sharpener, an internal thread cutter and an external thread cutter. The Eco-Friendly Pencil Sharpener was inspired by the screws used in everyday life. The sharpener mechanically shapes the pencil stub into a threaded shape, then shapes the end of another pencil into a nut, allowing both pencils to be joined. The two parts combine to form a whole pencil, and hence, they do not need to be discarded. This sharpener is sleek and curved, making it comfortable to hold and use.

## THE STACK PILLOW



It isn't that the Stack Pillow is built to be more comfortable than other pillows... it's that the Stack Pillow also acknowledges one of the most primitive sleeping patterns where you put your hand underneath your head as you sleep on your side. Designed with a dual-layer system, the Stack Pillow by Shengxi has an upper vegan down layer made that gives you ultimate comfort and boosts air circulation, and a lower memory foam layer that provides support and enables spinal alignment. Right between both those layers is an empty space that lets you tuck your hands in as you sleep. All in all, the Stack Pillow isn't just about promoting comfort, it's about encouraging behaviors that help you sleep more comfortably and naturally too!

## PALM GRATER

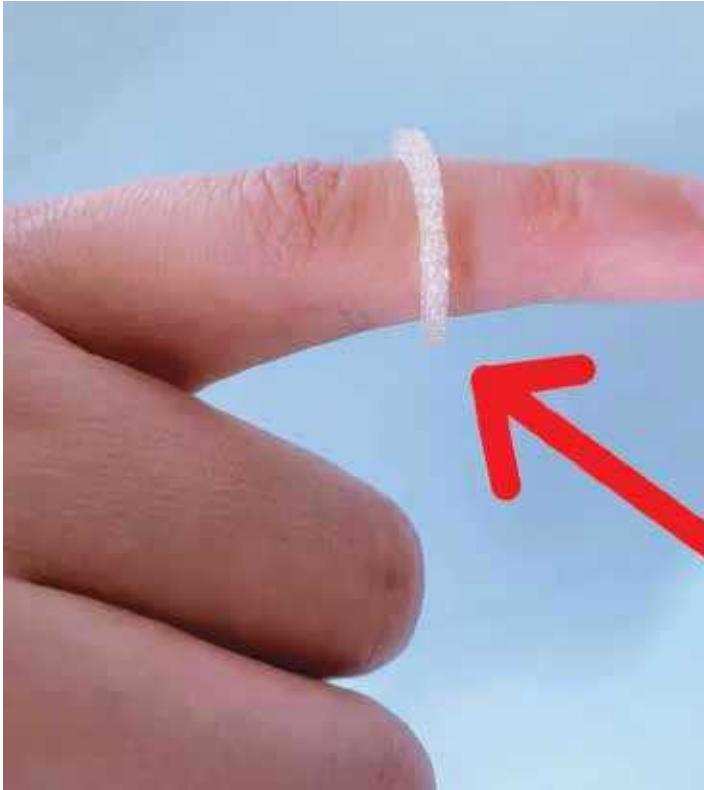


Grating ingredients is not exactly something one would consider enjoyable or even satisfying. It doesn't require much skill compared to slicing and dicing, and the common tools for grating aren't that fun to work with, either. Why should you have to use a large metallic weapon just to add a touch of cinnamon to a plate? They say, however, that every little thing matters, and that's especially true for garnishes and grated ingredients. Quite appropriately, this grater is also little, small enough to securely fit in the palm of your hand, almost like a toy. And just like a toy, it is designed to add a bit of fun to your kitchen and dining life while you add a bit of cheese or lemon zest to your dish.



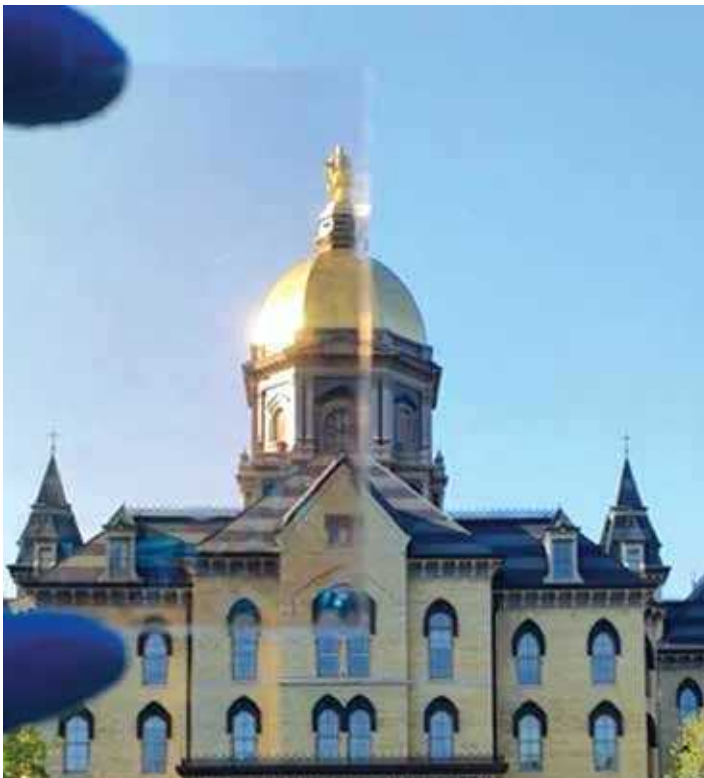
## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### A NEW PRINTABLE AND WEARABLE INSECT REPELLENT



Some scientists at Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (MLU) have invented a new type of insect-repellent delivery device. The active ingredient is first “encapsulated” and shaped into the appropriate shape, such as a ring, which may then be worn and releases an agent meant to repel mosquitoes for an extended period of time. The researchers used “IR3535” an insect repellent developed by MERCK, to create their prototypes. “Mosquito sprays containing IR3535 are very gentle on the skin and have been used all over the world for many years. That’s why we’ve been using the agent for our experiments”, says Professor René Androsch from the MLU. It typically comes in the form of a spray or lotion and provides protection for several hours. However, Androsch and his colleagues are searching for methods to release the agent over a much longer length of time, such as encapsulating it in a wearable ring or bracelet. Insect repellent was carefully inserted into a biodegradable polymer using a specialized 3D printing technology, and the mixture of substances was successfully shaped in various ways.

### CLEAR WINDOW COATING COOLS BUILDINGS WITHOUT USING ENERGY



Demand is growing for effective new technologies to cool buildings, as climate change intensifies summer heat. Now, some scientists have just designed a transparent window coating that could lower the temperature inside buildings, without expending a single watt of energy. They did this with the help of advanced computing technology and artificial intelligence. Cooling accounts for about 15% of global energy consumption. That demand could be lowered with a window coating that could block the sun’s ultraviolet and near-infrared light. These are parts of the solar spectrum that are not visible to humans, but they typically pass through glass to heat an enclosed room. Energy use could be even further reduced if the coating radiates heat from the window’s surface at a wavelength that passes through the atmosphere into outer space. However, it’s difficult to design materials that can meet these criteria simultaneously and at the same time can also transmit visible light. This is required so they don’t interfere with the view. Eungkyu Lee, Tengfei Luo, and colleagues set out to design a “transparent radiative cooler” (TRC) that could do just that.



## COUNTRY PROFILE

## Thailand



	Area
	513,120 sq km
	Population (2022 estimate)
	68.97 million
	Capital
	Bangkok
	Real GDP (purchasing power parity)
	\$1,206,620,000,000 (2020 estimate)
	Real GDP per capita
	\$17,300 (2020 estimate)
	GDP official exchange rate
	\$543.798 billion (2019 estimate)
	Real GDP growth rate
	2.62% (2019 estimate)
	Inflation rate (consumer prices)
	0.7 % (2019 estimate)
	Public debt
	41.9% of GDP (2017 estimate)
	Taxes and other revenues
	15.2% of GDP (2017 estimate)
	Current account balance
	\$37.033 billion (2019 estimate)
	Foreign exchange and gold reserves
	\$202.6 billion (31 December 2017 estimate)

Source: The World Factbook, Central Intelligence Agency

Thailand, a country in Southeast Asia, 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. A newly industrialized economy, Thailand, is regarded as one of the fast-growing economies in Asia. With a relatively well-developed infrastructure, a free-enterprise economy, generally pro-investment policies, Thailand achieved steady growth. It is highly dependent on international trade, with exports--- mostly electronics, agricultural commodities, automobiles and parts, and processed foods-- accounting for about two thirds of its gross domestic product (GDP). Thailand's economic fundamentals are sound, with low inflation, low unemployment, and reasonable public and external debt levels. Tourism and government spending-- mostly on infrastructure and short-term stimulus measures -- have helped to boost the economy, and The Bank of Thailand has been supportive, with several interest rate reductions.



### Agriculture

Rice, cassava, sugarcane, palm oil, corn, rubber, pineapple, mango, banana, coconut, orange, vegetables are main agricultural products.



### 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 are some of the major industries



### Energy

Ninety percent of Thai electrical generating capacity is conventional thermal. Oil-fired plants have been replaced by natural gas, which in 2018 generated 65% of Thailand's electricity. Coal-fired plants produce an additional 20%, with the remainder from biomass, hydro, and biogas. As of 31 May 2018, the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand (EGAT) produces 37% of Thailand's electricity; independent power producers, 35%; small power producers, 19%; and electricity imports, 9%.



### Foreign Trade

**Export:** \$258.42 billion (2020 estimated)

**Imports:** \$233.75 billion (2020 estimated)

**Major export commodities:** Office machinery/parts, cars and vehicle parts, integrated circuits, delivery trucks, gold

**Major export destinations:** United States, China, Japan, Vietnam

**Major Import commodities:** crude petroleum, integrated circuits, natural gas, vehicle parts, gold

**Major import sources:** China, Japan, United States, Malaysia



### Mining

The country has deposits of natural resources such as lead, natural gas, tin, gypsum, iron ore, zinc, gold, tungsten, rock salt, fluorite



### Tourism

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

#### Road:

Thailand has 390,000 km of highways. It has 462,133 roads and many multi-lane highways

#### Railway:

Thailand's railway system, established a century ago, consists of 4,127 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.

#### Air transport

As of 2021, Thailand had 101 airports with 63 paved runways. Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi Airport is the busiest airport in the country. Other major airports include Don Mueang International Airport, Chiang Mai International Airport, Surat Thani International Airport etc. Thai Airways International is the flag carrier Airline of Thailand



Thai Airways International

## REVIEW

### Export Earnings

For the first time ever, Bangladesh exported US\$5 billion worth of goods in one month amid a global economic crisis and record high inflation in most of the export destination countries. Export earnings in November 2022 increased from both the strategic target (US\$4.35 billion) and November 2021 (US\$4.04 billion), by 17.01 percent and 25.99 percent, respectively.

However, export earnings (merchandise) in the first five months of the current fiscal year (July-November of FY23) increased by 10.89 percent to US\$21.95 billion from US\$19.79 billion in the corresponding five months of the previous fiscal year (Table 1). Overall export earnings in July-November of FY23 also surpassed narrowly by 0.83 percent against the strategic target (US\$21.77 billion).

**Table 1: Monthly Trends in Exports (Goods)**

Month	Exports (million US\$)		Change (%)
	FY23 <sup>P</sup>	FY22 <sup>R</sup>	
July	3985	3473	+14.74
August	4607	3383	+36.18
September	3905	4165	-6.24
October	4356	4728	-7.87
November	5093	4041	26.03
<b>Total of July – November</b>	<b>21946</b>	<b>19790</b>	<b>+10.89</b>

Notes: P=Provisional; R=Revised

Sources: Export Promotion Bureau

Of the total US\$21.95 billion, the readymade garments (RMG) fetched US\$18.33 billion, posting a comparatively lower growth of 15.61 percent year-on-year in July-November of FY23. A breakdown of the clothing sector performance shows that the knitwear sub-sector of RMG earned US\$10.11 billion from exports, registering a 12.55 percent year-on-year growth. Earnings from woven garment exports amounted to US\$8.22 billion, up by 19.61 percent. However, RMG including knit and woven items contributed the lion's share of 83.51 percent during July-November of FY23 and the rest, 16.49 percent, came from other 31 non-RMG sectors, including home textiles, jute, agro-products, leather and engineering goods.

The country's major export products during July-November of FY23 that showed positive growth, year-on-year, included knitwear (+12.55%), woven garments (+19.61%), cotton & cotton products (+61.13%), headgear/cap (+49.66%), ceramic products (+4.78%), other footwear (+19.44%), leather & leather products (+17.65%), plastic products (+41.24%), and paper & paper products (+131.38%). However, negative growth was found in agricultural products (-22.92%), frozen & live fish (-27.39%), jute & jute goods (-11.0%), home textile (-7.98%), specialized textiles (-40.64%), man-made filaments & staple fibers (-17.54%), handicrafts (-24.14%), carpet (-26.10%), rubber (-40.46%), chemical products (-21.04%), petroleum bi-

products (-32.46%), engineering products (-44.28%) and other manufactured products (-13.25%).

### Inflows of Remittance

According to the Bangladesh Bank (BB) data, the inflow of remittances increased slightly by 2.58 percent to US\$1.59 billion in November 2022 from US\$1.55 billion in the same month of the previous fiscal year. The remittance inflow in November 2022 was 3.92 percent higher than the inflow in October 2022 as the expatriates sent home US\$1.53 billion through the banking channel in October amid various initiatives taken by the government and the Bangladesh Bank (Table 2).

On the other hand, the inflow of remittances in the first five months of the current fiscal year (July-November of FY23) increased by 2.12 percent to US\$8.79 billion from US\$8.61 billion in the correspondent period in FY22 (Table 2).

**Table 2: Monthly Trends in Remittances**

Month	Exports (million US\$)		Change (%)
	FY23 <sup>P</sup>	FY22 <sup>R</sup>	
July	2096	1871	+12.03
August	2037	1810	+12.54
September	1539	1727	- 10.89
October	1525	1647	- 7.41
November	1590	1550	+2.58
<b>Total of July – November</b>	<b>8787</b>	<b>8605</b>	<b>+2.12</b>

Notes: P=Provisional; R=Revised

Source: Bangladesh Bank

### Foreign Exchange Reserves

Bangladesh Bank's gross foreign exchange reserves fell below US\$35 billion in November 2022, the lowest level in two years, largely for imports far outstripping exports and falling currency exchange rate against the US dollar. Experts say an ACU (Asian Clearing Union) payment against import bills pushed the reserves down. The decline in foreign exchange reserves is adding to financial strains the country already faces for a record current account deficit amid deep depreciation of the local currency, Taka, against the international trading currency, the US dollar.

The foreign exchange reserves stood at US\$33.79 billion on 30 November 2022 while it was US\$41.83 billion at the end of June 2022 and US\$44.88 billion on 30 November 2021 (Table 3).

**Table 3: Monthly Trends in Foreign Exchange Reserves**

Month	Foreign Exchange Reserve (million US\$)	
	FY23 <sup>P</sup>	FY22 <sup>R</sup>
July	39600	45842
August	39055	48060
September	36476	46200
October	35809	46459
November	33790	44881

Notes: P=Provisional; R=Revised

Source: Bangladesh Bank



## Exchange Rate

Exchange rate of Bangladesh Taka depreciated since the end of June 2022. Between end-June of FY22 and end-November of FY23, the value of Taka depreciated by 9.51 percent in terms of US dollar. On the inter-bank market, the US dollar was quoted at Tk.93.4500 at the end of June 2022 and Tk.103.2731 at the end of November 2022 (Table 4).

**Table 4: Monthly Exchange Rate**

Month	FY23 <sup>P</sup> (Taka per US\$)		FY22 <sup>R</sup> (Taka per US\$)	
	Month Average	End Month	Month Average	End Month
June	-	-	92.0347	93.4500
July	93.8873	94.7000	84.8037	84.8024
August	94.9056	95.0000	84.9523	85.2000
September	95.6154	99.3434	85.2587	85.5000
October	96.6154	100.0476	85.6121	85.6582
November	NA	103.2731	85.7750	85.8000

Note: i) P=Provisional; R=Revised

ii) Exchange rate represents the mid-value of buying and selling rates

Source: Bangladesh Bank

## Price Situation

According to the latest Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) data, soaring inflation descended further to 8.85 percent in November 2022 from a decade-high 9.52 percent in August 2022 and 8.91 percent in October 2022, under sobering impact

of slowly improving global supply system (Table 6). Earlier, the point-to-point inflation was the highest at 11.40 percent in 2011. A year ago, in November 2021, the inflation rate was lower at 5.98 percent.

As a result of comparatively high inflation, according to economists, soaring prices of all commodities, including daily necessities, eroded people's purchasing power and made living nearly unaffordable for those in the lowest rung of society. Two exogenous economic factors - the tapering global pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine war on its close heels - were the strongest drivers behind price rises across the world and in Bangladesh under a knock - on effect. Alleged price-fixing on the domestic market by certain oligopolies made the situation far worse. The point-to-point inflation till July had also maintained its trend within the 'seven-per cent club' which suddenly jumped to 9.52 percent in August 2022. The government targeted to keep the inflation within 5.60 percent limit in the current fiscal year (FY23).

Food inflation, however, decreased further by 0.36 percentage points to 8.14 percent in November 2022 from 8.50 percent in the previous month (October 2022). Year-on-year, food inflation was lower at 5.43 percent in November 2021. On the other hand, non-food price inflation increased by 0.40 percentage points to 9.98 percent in November 2022 from 9.58 percent in the previous month. Year-on-year, non-food price inflation was lower at 6.87 percent in November 2021.

**Table 5: Monthly Trends in Inflation (Base: 2005-06=100)**

Period	Point to Point-All (National)			Point to Point-Rural			Point to Point-Urban		
	General	Food	Non-food	General	Food	Non-food	General	Food	Non-food
<b>FY23<sup>P</sup></b>									
July	7.48	8.19	6.39	8.02	8.79	6.58	6.51	6.84	6.15
August	9.52	9.94	8.85	9.70	9.98	9.18	9.18	9.87	8.42
September	9.10	9.08	9.13	9.13	8.95	9.48	9.03	9.36	8.66
October	8.91	8.50	9.58	8.92	8.38	9.98	8.90	8.75	9.07
<b>FY22<sup>R</sup></b>									
July	5.36	5.08	5.80	5.53	5.56	5.47	5.06	4.01	6.24
August	5.54	5.16	6.13	5.71	5.67	5.79	5.22	4.02	6.59
September	5.59	5.21	6.19	5.77	5.74	5.84	5.25	4.03	6.65
October	5.70	5.22	6.48	5.81	5.62	6.17	5.50	4.31	6.89

Notes: i) P=Provisional, R=Revised; ii) Food includes food, beverages and tobacco

Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

According to the BBS data, the rates of general, food and non-food point-to-point inflation in rural area in November 2022 were higher than the rates of urban area (Table 5).

## Capital Market

The capital market witnessed volatility at the opening on 31 October 2022 as the shaky investors preferred profit-booking on sector-specific large-cap issues. Following the previous day's correction, DSEX, the prime index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), went down 10.58 points or 0.16 per cent to stand at 6,323. The DS30 index, comprising blue chips, also

dropped 9.52 points to reach 2,235 and the DSE Shariah Index (DSES) shed 5.78 points to 1,384.

Turnover, another important indicator of the market, stood at Tk.3.50 billion. Market insiders said that the market witnessed volatility as investors favored profit-booking on large-cap stocks. Of the issues traded, 47 advanced, 69 declined, and 200 issues remained unchanged on the DSE trading floor.

The Chittagong Stock Exchange saw a negative trend till then with its All Shares Price Index (CASPI)—losing 4.0 points to stand at 18,690 while the Selective Categories Index – CSCX – shedding 2.0 points to reach 11,203.

# STATISTICS

## EXPORT PERFORMANCE OF BANGLADESH

(Million US \$)

Products	Export for 2021-22	Export Target of 2022-23	Strategic Target for July-Nov. 2022-23	Export Performance for July-Nov. 2022-23	Export Performance for July-Nov. 2021-22	% Change of export Performance Over s. Export Target	% Change of export performance July-Nov. 2022-23 Over July-Nov. 2021-22
1	2.	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>All products (A+B)</b>	<b>52082.66</b>	<b>58000.00</b>	<b>21770.00</b>	<b>21946.07</b>	<b>19790.87</b>	<b>0.81</b>	<b>10.89</b>
<b>A. Primary Commodities</b>	<b>1695.19</b>	<b>2028.12</b>	<b>761.24</b>	<b>637.18</b>	<b>843.31</b>	<b>-16.3</b>	<b>-24.44</b>
<b>(1) Frozen &amp; Live Fish</b>	<b>532.94</b>	<b>634.00</b>	<b>237.97</b>	<b>208.27</b>	<b>286.85</b>	<b>-12.48</b>	<b>-27.39</b>
a) Live Fish	6.43	7.00	2.63	4.52	3.91	71.86	15.60
b) Frozen Fish	91.87	96.80	36.33	38.38	41.76	5.64	-8.09
c) Shrimps	407.25	500.00	187.67	156.46	231.44	-16.63	-32.40
d) Crabs	11.82	12.00	4.50	4.88	5.72	8.44	-14.69
e) Others	15.57	18.20	6.83	4.03	4.02	-41.00	0.25
<b>(2) Agricultural Products</b>	<b>1162.25</b>	<b>1394.12</b>	<b>523.28</b>	<b>428.91</b>	<b>556.46</b>	<b>-18.03</b>	<b>-22.92</b>
a) Tea	2.14	2.50	0.94	0.80	0.75	-14.89	6.67
b) Vegetables	99.91	110.00	41.29	19.60	42.70	-52.53	-54.10
c) Tobacco	107.22	125.00	46.92	110.10	48.22	134.65	128.33
d) Cut Flower & Foliage	0.08	0.12	0.05	0.04	0.03	-20.00	33.33
e) Fruits	5.29	6.50	2.44	0.23	3.66	-90.57	-93.72
f) Spices	39.66	40.00	15.01	15.23	12.02	1.47	26.71
g) Dry Food	249.96	300.00	112.60	84.51	88.61	-24.95	-4.63
h) Others	657.99	810.00	304.03	198.40	360.47	-34.74	-44.96
<b>B. Manufactured Commodities</b>	<b>50387.47</b>	<b>55971.88</b>	<b>21008.76</b>	<b>21308.89</b>	<b>18947.56</b>	<b>1.43</b>	<b>12.46</b>
(1) Cement, Salt, Stone Etc	9.57	11.00	4.13	3.67	3.36	-11.14	9.23
(2) Ores, Slag and Ash	46.75	70.00	26.27	15.43	15.46	-41.26	-0.19
(3) Petroleum bi Products	33.53	45	16.89	7.49	11.09	-55.65	-32.46
<b>(4) Chemical Products</b>	<b>364.07</b>	<b>429.55</b>	<b>161.23</b>	<b>126.20</b>	<b>159.83</b>	<b>-21.73</b>	<b>-21.04</b>
a) Pharmaceuticals	188.78	230.00	86.33	74.22	90.61	-14.03	-18.09
b) Chemical Fertilizer	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
c) Cosmetics	0.94	1.10	0.41	0.32	0.37	-21.95	-13.51
d) Others	174.35	198.45	74.49	51.66	68.85	-30.65	-24.97
<b>(5) Plastic Products</b>	<b>166.25</b>	<b>200.00</b>	<b>75.07</b>	<b>80.59</b>	<b>57.06</b>	<b>7.35</b>	<b>41.24</b>
a) PVC Bags	26.39	30.00	11.26	13.23	9.73	17.50	35.97
b) Plastic Waste	22.77	30.00	11.26	9.43	6.34	-16.25	48.74
c) Others	117.09	140.00	52.55	57.93	40.99	10.24	41.33
(6) Rubber	46.82	60.00	22.52	11.83	19.87	-47.47	-40.46
<b>(7) Leather &amp; Leather Products</b>	<b>1245.18</b>	<b>1440</b>	<b>540.50</b>	<b>537.50</b>	<b>456.85</b>	<b>-0.56</b>	<b>17.65</b>
a) Leather	151.37	180.00	67.56	55.57	56.48	-17.75	-1.61
b) Leather Products	337.62	440.00	165.15	153.74	121.16	-6.91	26.89
c) Leather Footwear	756.18	820.00	307.78	328.19	279.20	6.63	17.55
(8) Wood & Wood Products	5.17	6.50	2.44	2.09	0.75	-14.34	178.67
(9) Handicrafts	42.83	50.00	18.77	12.57	16.57	-33.03	-24.14
(10) Pulp	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
(11) Paper & Paper Products	105.1	115.00	43.16	73.07	31.58	69.3	131.38
(12) Printed Materials	2.38	2.50	0.94	2.08	0.59	121.28	252.54
(13) Silk	1.01	1.70	0.64	0.29	0.35	-54.69	-17.14
(14) Wool & Woollen Products	0.21	0.25	0.09	0.06	0.14	-33.33	-57.14
(15) Cotton & Cotton Product (Yarn, Waste, Fabrics etc)	244.92	260.00	97.59	129.68	80.48	32.88	61.13

(Million US \$)

Products	Export for 2021-22	Export Target of 2022-23	Strategic Target for July-Nov. 2022-23	Export Performance for July-Nov. 2022-23	Export Performance for July-Nov. 2021-22	% Change of export Performance Over s. Export Target	% Change of export performance July-Nov. 2022-23 Over July-Nov. 2021-22
1	2.	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>(16) Jute &amp; Jute goods</b>	<b>1127.63</b>	<b>1280.00</b>	<b>480.44</b>	<b>406.60</b>	<b>456.83</b>	<b>-15.37</b>	<b>-11</b>
a) Raw Jute	216.18	240.00	90.08	91.90	94.67	2.02	-2.93
b) Jute Yarn & Twine	697.80	800.00	300.28	218.84	272.47	-27.12	-19.68
c) Jute Sacks & Bags	119.23	130.00	48.79	59.24	52.42	21.42	13.01
d) Others	94.42	110.00	41.29	36.62	37.27	-11.31	-1.74
(17) Man Made Filaments & Staple Fibres	216.83	260.00	97.59	91.36	110.79	-6.38	-17.54
(18) Carpet (Jute & Others)	36.81	44.00	16.52	11.21	15.17	-32.14	-26.1
<b>(19) Specialized Textiles</b>	<b>314.82</b>	<b>387.00</b>	<b>145.26</b>	<b>101.79</b>	<b>171.49</b>	<b>-29.93</b>	<b>-40.64</b>
a) Terry Towel	46.00	55.00	20.64	16.24	20.23	-21.32	-19.72
b) Special Woven Fabric	32.97	40.00	15.01	14.50	12.50	-3.40	16.00
c) Knitted Fabrics	217.51	272.00	102.09	56.73	133.12	-44.43	-57.38
d) Other	18.34	20.00	7.51	14.32	5.64	90.68	153.90
<b>(20) RMG</b>	<b>42613.15</b>	<b>46800</b>	<b>17566.14</b>	<b>18331.28</b>	<b>15856.2</b>	<b>4.36</b>	<b>15.61</b>
(a) Knitwear	23,214.32	25,600.00	9,608.83	10,113.65	8,985.57	5.25	12.55
(b) Woven Garments	19,398.84	21,200.00	7,957.31	8,217.63	6,870.63	3.27	19.61
<b>(21) Home Textile</b>	<b>1621.93</b>	<b>1980.00</b>	<b>743.18</b>	<b>518.63</b>	<b>563.6</b>	<b>-30.21</b>	<b>-7.98</b>
a) Bed, Kitchen toilet lines	576.95	800.00	300.28	234.71	246.87	-21.84	-4.93
b) Other	1,044.98	1,180.00	442.91	283.92	316.73	-35.90	-10.36
(22) Other Footwear	449.15	520.00	195.18	209.50	175.40	7.34	19.44
(23) Headgear/Cap	364.63	410.10	153.93	193.43	129.25	25.66	49.66
(24) Umbrella Waking Sticks	0.23	0.30	0.11	0.02	0.08	-81.82	-75
(25) Wigs & Human Hair	105.89	130.00	48.79	56.54	36.26	15.88	55.93
(26) Building Materials	1.12	1.30	0.49	0.29	0.06	-40.82	383.33
(27) Ceramic Products	41.36	50.00	18.77	17.32	16.53	-7.73	4.78
(28) Glass & Glass ware	18.65	24.00	9.01	3.66	7.13	-59.38	-48.67
<b>(29) Engineering Products</b>	<b>795.63</b>	<b>964.38</b>	<b>361.98</b>	<b>218.32</b>	<b>391.84</b>	<b>-39.69</b>	<b>-44.28</b>
a) Iron Steel	154.68	190.00	71.32	27.82	69.37	-60.99	-59.90
b) Copper Wire	67.98	85.00	31.90	17.79	25.45	-44.23	-30.10
c) Stainless Steel ware	3.74	5.00	1.88	1.01	2.23	-46.28	-54.71
d) Engineering Equipment	241.56	304.38	114.25	49.44	170.43	-56.73	-70.99
e) Electric Products	100.10	105.00	39.41	38.89	34.97	-1.32	11.21
f) Bicycle	167.95	200.00	75.07	60.53	65.69	-19.37	-7.86
g) Others	59.62	75.00	28.15	22.84	23.70	-18.86	-3.63
(30) Ships, boats & floating structures	0.24	0.30	0.11	5.15	0.13	4581.82	3861.54
<b>(31) Other mfd Products</b>	<b>365.61</b>	<b>429.00</b>	<b>161.02</b>	<b>141.24</b>	<b>162.81</b>	<b>-12.28</b>	<b>-13.25</b>
a) Optical, Photographic, Medical Instruments etc	91.43	104.00	39.04	35.38	41.74	-9.38	-15.24
b) Furniture	110.36	130.00	48.79	31.07	36.58	-36.32	-15.06
c) Golf Shaft	18.00	25.00	9.38	6.91	8.06	-26.33	-14.27
d) Others	145.82	170.00	63.81	67.88	76.43	6.38	-11.18

Source: Export Promotion Bureau



## FRESH OPENING AND SETTLEMENT OF IMPORT LCS

(USD in million)

Items	July-September of FY23		July-September of FY22	
	Opening	Settlement	Opening	Settlement
<b>A. Consumer goods</b>	<b>2588.00</b>	<b>1992.50</b>	<b>2475.07</b>	<b>1999.72</b>
Rice and wheat	1001.07	349.13	760.21	443.81
Sugar and salt	116.49	194.42	242.54	155.69
Milk food	74.18	90.79	52.84	86.69
Edible oil (refined)	829.77	768.31	307.83	245.65
All kinds of fruits	73.28	58.79	127.56	78.45
Pulses	63.97	62.45	45.55	63.80
Onion	46.14	36.51	55.87	50.69
Spices	52.16	65.63	57.87	73.27
Second hand clothings	0.08	0.17	0.42	0.56
Drugs and medicines(finished)	18.17	19.18	420.51	420.86
Others	312.70	347.11	403.88	380.25
<b>B. Intermediate goods</b>	<b>1494.50</b>	<b>1559.28</b>	<b>1749.13</b>	<b>1518.60</b>
Coal	228.76	130.79	197.70	104.68
Cement	30.29	45.15	64.14	42.55
Clinker & limestone	291.40	298.61	264.76	220.20
B. P. sheet	14.68	31.17	36.21	17.94
Tin plate	1.21	0.74	4.15	2.05
Scrap Vessels	118.10	79.04	269.92	257.83
Iron and steel scrap	454.74	555.15	442.92	484.29
Non-ferrous metal	29.08	35.61	69.55	75.86
Paper and paper board	55.15	75.50	91.05	75.19
Others	271.10	307.52	308.73	238.02
<b>C. Industrial raw materials</b>	<b>6386.89</b>	<b>8230.81</b>	<b>7475.75</b>	<b>6483.00</b>
Edible oil (Crude)	213.17	197.68	73.87	48.25
Seeds	93.64	329.73	145.77	230.44
Textile fabrics (B/B & others)	2568.31	2868.04	3170.20	2418.32
Pharmaceutical raw materials	230.46	254.43	294.47	276.94
Raw cotton	557.88	1046.90	791.19	730.74
Cotton yarn	366.63	710.27	877.84	728.80
Copra	74.60	81.87	136.04	113.69
Synthetic fibre & yarn	238.31	358.92	403.50	347.07
Chemicals & chem. products	2043.88	2382.98	1582.86	1588.75
<b>D. Capital machinery</b>	<b>606.89</b>	<b>1457.33</b>	<b>1771.26</b>	<b>926.25</b>
Textile machinery	38.64	122.82	187.08	40.08
Leather / tannery	2.72	7.10	6.40	3.05
Jute industry	0.30	4.00	2.10	2.45
Garment industry	59.23	150.37	252.32	116.32
Pharmaceutical industry	32.14	28.04	46.51	43.44
Packing industry	1.44	1.63	5.00	0.55
Other industry	472.42	1143.38	1271.84	720.36
<b>E. Machinery for misc. inds.</b>	<b>737.42</b>	<b>899.34</b>	<b>1031.97</b>	<b>909.67</b>
Other machineries	30.81	30.37	20.41	24.15
Marine diesel engine	0.42	1.05	1.86	0.41
Computer & its accessories	53.15	85.44	117.34	100.08
Motor vehicle & motorcycle parts	34.54	55.31	50.93	66.68
Bicycle parts	19.76	27.74	39.83	36.99
Other iron and steel products	58.67	59.94	75.24	34.44
Motor vehicles	135.36	158.63	157.06	154.85
Other electronics components	24.57	30.90	24.03	29.70
Tractors & power tiller	7.11	6.85	15.10	10.11
Others	373.02	443.11	530.18	452.24
<b>F. Petroleum &amp; petro.prodts.</b>	<b>2633.63</b>	<b>2971.47</b>	<b>1744.30</b>	<b>1404.93</b>
Crude	87.53	116.71	297.93	231.27
Refined	2546.10	2854.77	1446.37	1173.66
<b>G. Others</b>	<b>4133.59</b>	<b>5342.48</b>	<b>4074.89</b>	<b>3820.71</b>
Commercial sector	989.65	1213.31	993.12	889.85
Industrial sector	3143.94	4129.17	3081.76	2930.87
<b>Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>248.20</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>212.81</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>18580.92</b>	<b>22453.21</b>	<b>20322.36</b>	<b>17062.88</b>
of which back to back	2376.40	2917.94	3236.26	2570.61

**Source:** Foreign Exchange Operations Department(FEOD), Bangladesh Bank

Opening = 'Fresh opening of import LCS', Settlement = 'Settlement of import LCS' and Outstanding = 'Outstanding LCS at the end period'.

**BALANCE OF PAYMENTS (BOP)**

(USD in million)

Items	July-September, FY23 <sup>P</sup>	July-September, FY22 <sup>R</sup>
<b>Trade balance</b>	-7548	-6775
Exports f.o.b(including EPZ)	11800	10546
Imports f.o.b(including EPZ)	19348	17321
<b>Services</b>	-1100	-606
Credit	2232	2161
Debit	3332	2767
<b>Primary income</b>	-789	-731
Credit	83	93
Debit	872	824
<i>Of which:Official interest payment</i>	274	253
<b>Secondary income</b>	5827	5567
Official transfers	15	7
Private transfers	5812	5560
<i>of which : Workers' remittances ( current a/c. portion)</i>	5641	5376
<b>Current Account Balance</b>	-3610	-2545
<b>Capital account</b>	36	68
Capital transfers	36	68
<b>Financial account</b>	359	2218
i) Foreign direct investment(net)*	457	375
ii) Portfolio investment (net)	-15	-62
<i>of which : Workers' remittances ( financial a/c. portion)</i>	32	32
iii) Other investment(net)	-83	1905
Medium and long-term (MLT) loans	1298	1863
MLT amortization payments	413	424
Other long-term loans (net)	84	479
Other short-term loans (net)	668	172
Trade credit (net)	-1247	-405
DMBs & NBDCs(net)	-473	220
Assets	-94	550
Liabilities	-567	770
Errors and omissions	-231	-551
<b>Overall Balance</b>	-3446	-810
<b>Reserve Assets</b>	3446	810
<b>Bangladesh Bank (net)</b>	3446	810
Assets	-4685	-29
Liabilities	-1239	781

Source :Statistics Department, Bangladesh Bank.

Note:- Both of exports and imports are compiled on the basis of customs data. P=Provisional; R = Revised.

\* FDI is calculated on net basis by deducting disinvestment, repayments of loans &amp; loss.

**PRODUCTION OF SELECTED INDUSTRIAL ITEMS (BASE YEAR 2005-06=100)**

Description of items of industry	Unit	No .of reporting industries (selected)	2019-20	2020-21	Aug. 2021 (R.)	July 22 (P)	Aug. 22(P)
<b>Manufacture of Food Products</b>							
Fish & sea food	M.Ton	180 & *	42724	40512	5336	3301	4167
Processing & Preserving of fruits and vegetables	"000" Litre	3	123517	109120	9223	9860	9842
Hyd. Vegetable oil	M.Ton	2	1005502	998073	74490	65923	74093
Grain milling	M.Ton	8	614006	332939	41400	29216	47331
Rice milling	M.Ton	6	42689	47888	3354	3210	3095
Sugar	M.Ton	16	81768	48082	0	0	0
Black & Blending Tea	M.Ton	116	89930	90008	14387	11267	10762
Edible salt	M.Ton	8	88272	101262	7877	6526	7975
Animal feeds	M.Ton	3	704880	859315	72378	67449	69005
<b>Manufacture of beverages</b>							
Spirits & Alcohol	"000" Litre	1	5159	4272	371	384	281
Soft Drinks	`000' Doz Bottle	4	59222	104902	11845	16052	17214
Mineral Water	"000" Litre	4	156784	273894	27193	44033	45327
<b>Manufacture of tobacco products</b>							
Cigarettes	Mill. No	1	16186	15403	1315	1125	1132
Biddies	Mill. No	5	96246	89893	1818	6731	7799
<b>Manufacture of textile</b>							
Preparation & Spinning of Textile fibers	M.Ton	20	223314	257198	23397	21860	22382
Weaving of Textiles	"000" Metre	15	42283	36858	3962	4185	4503
Dyeing, bleaching & finishing	"000" Metre	19	129650	130133	13151	14273	14278
Jute Textile	M.Ton	95	379585	310057	15613	15500	16000
<b>Mfg. of wearing apparel</b>							
Wearing Apparel	Million Tk.	*	1188830	1229409	97773	142029	159843
Knitwear	Million Tk.	*	1177323	1398236	135722	174080	195651
<b>Manufacture of leather and related products</b>							
1511 Tanning & Finishing Leather:	"000" Sq Metre	175 & *	13075	16595	1191	2296	1836
Leather Footwear	"000" Pair	4	28538	32079	1948	2470	2430
<b>Manufacture of wood and products of wood and cork</b>							
Particle board/ plywood	"000" Sq Metre	2	12258	13710	1231	1041	1608
<b>Manufacture of Paper and paper products</b>							
Pulp, Paper & newsprint	M.Ton	3	241050	328647	30955	37238	36570
Articles made of paper	M.Ton	2	41000	40766	2608	3202	6143
<b>Printing and reproduction of recorded media</b>							
Printing of Books and periodicals	"000" No.	10	142464	157634	12517	12212	12304
<b>Manufacture of coke and refined petroleum products</b>							
Petroleum refining	M.Ton	1	1078570	1530820	113910	137191	122108
<b>Manufacture of chemicals and chemical products</b>							
Compressed liquidities gas	Cylinder (12.5 Kg.)	2	1160550	1057162	50040	127718	80426
Fertilizer	M.Ton	7	976157	1296008	93154	53126	97401
Perfumes and cosmetics	"000" Tk.	3	10942940	12012471	994815	1174789	125333
Soaps & detergents	M.Ton	3	176084	190893	15712	11098	11057
Matches	"000" Gross	2	36644	45323	3715	3127	3100
<b>Manufacture of Pharmaceuticals and medicinal chemical</b>							
Pharmaceuticals/Allopathic drugs and medicine	"000" Tk.	20	25153893.4	281575024	25083460	25999625	26352383
Unani and Ayur Bedic Medicine	"000" Tk.	3	712467	1502532	151820	153331	149852



Description of items of industry	Unit	No .of reporting industries (selected)	2019-20	2020-21	Aug. 2021 (R.)	July 22 (P)	Aug. 22(P)
<b>Manufacture of rubber and plastic products</b>							
Rubber footwear/ other rubber products	Dozen Pair	8	536631	310938	28411	27551	28833
P.V.C products/plastic products	M.ton	3	54410	52008	4348	4246	4242
<b>Non-Metallic mineral Prod</b>							
Glass Sheet	"000" Sq ft.	3	20364	22587	1885	1308	1038
Tiles	"000"Sq ft	5	279741	199944	13687	18535	17491
Ceramic	"000" Dz	2	36480	37361	3241	3843	3180
Cement	M.Ton	8	17951285	21030828	1623894	1453161	1443412
Bricks	"000" No.	4	218294	325598	22650	18900	16461
<b>Manufacture of basic metals</b>							
Re-rolling mills	M.Ton	31	335640	379761	29468	37765	12339
Manufacture of fabricated metal products except machinery							
Structural metal products	"000" M.ton	5	14161	13519	1345	1179	1200
Other Fabricated metal products	Dozen	8	970756	991088	83464	48663	44437
<b>Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products</b>							
Communication equipment's (TV, Telephone) Television	No.	3	665938	700595	62639	28514	40025
<b>Manufacture of electrical equipment</b>							
Electric Motors, Generators, transformers/	No.	2	614681	335541	31733	18485	10801
Electrical apparatus 2732 Wires & Cables (ELEC.)	M.ton	3	52426	53210	5436	5668	9141
Electrical appliances / Domestic appliances	No.	9	532528	521593	43890	44217	44059
Manufacture of machinery and equipment n.e.c							
Agriculture & Forestry machinery	No.	2	105041	95682	10331	7805	7888
Machinery for Textile , apparel and leather production	No.	9	20236	21067	1572	1748	1755
Machinery equipment NEC	No.	10	1154859	1165988	90489	96365	97574
<b>Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers</b>							
Assemble of Motor vehicles	No.	2	1214	844	125	293	279
<b>Manufacture of other transport equipment</b>							
Ship and boat building	M.Ton	3	578562	370882	33142	16906	10278
Motor cycle	No.	3	86393	91094	6726	7716	7609
Manufacture of furniture							
Metal furniture	No.	2	4497	4149	434	360	496
Wooden furniture	No.	5	92457	122211	5626	8326	10521
Plastic furniture	No.	2	1527531	1202074	74046	103850	90544
<b>Natural Gas</b>	<b>MMCM</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>24998</b>	<b>25172</b>	<b>2088</b>	<b>1896</b>	<b>1980</b>
<b>Electricity</b>	<b>MKWH</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>69634</b>	<b>78654</b>	<b>7901</b>	<b>8245</b>	<b>8410</b>

Note: n.a.=not available. p= provisional, r= revised, M.cu.m.= million cubic meter. Mt = metric ton. MkwH = million kilowatt per hour, Tk= Taka, \* = EPB; F = Final

Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

## CAPITAL MARKET SNAPSHOT

### Market Stumbles Again In October

Chart: DSEX Index with MoM return

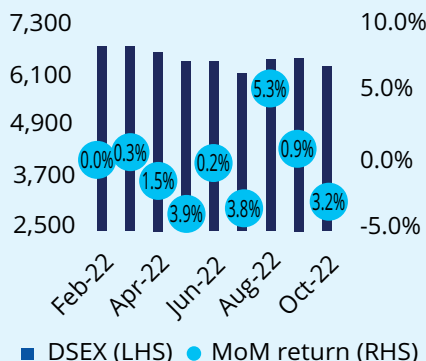


Chart: Avg. daily turnover (BDT bn)

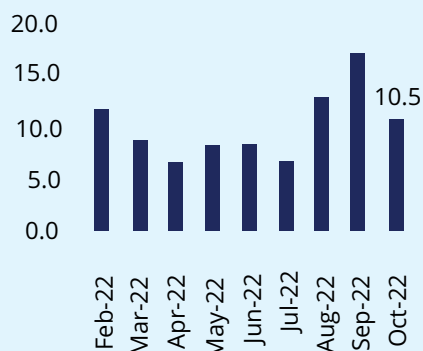


Chart: Market P/E (x)

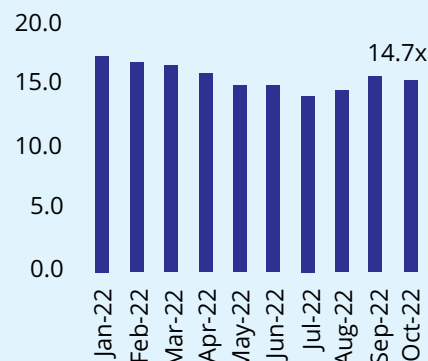


Chart: Sector M.cap return in Sep'22

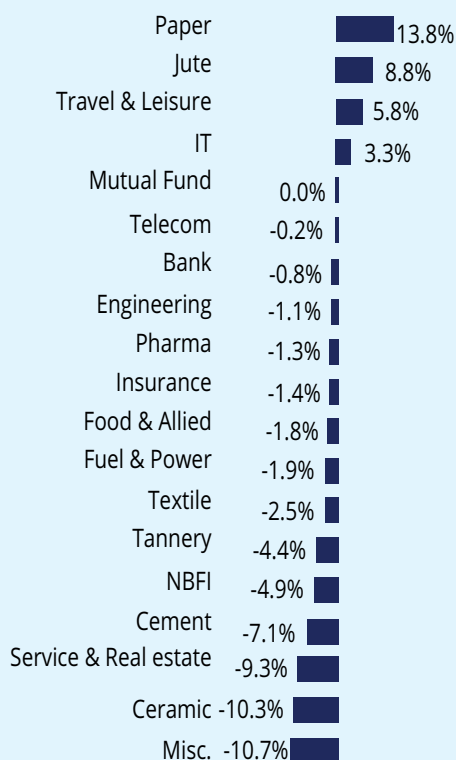


Chart: Turnover (BDT bn) in Sep'22

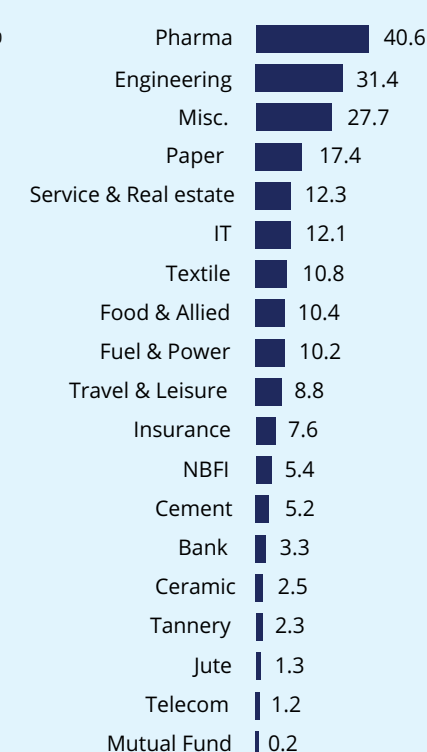


Chart: Sectors by M.Cap

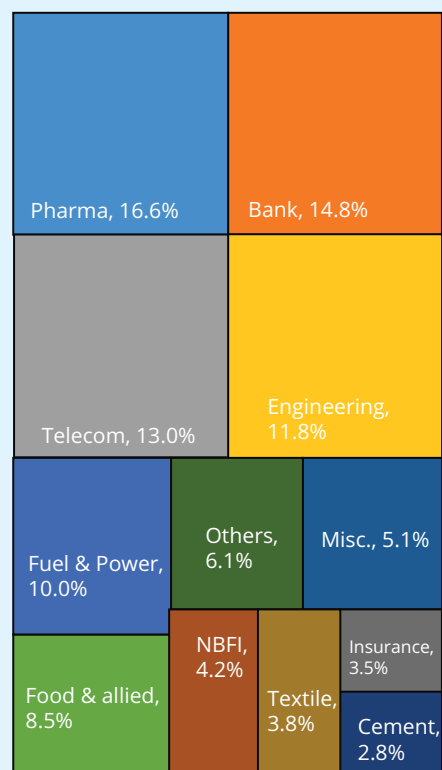
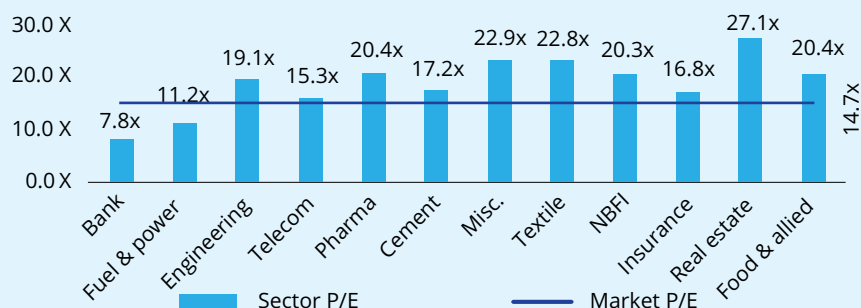


Table: Turnover leaders in DSE

	Ticker	Turnover (BDT bn)
1	ORIONPHARM	15.4
2	BEXIMCO	15.1
3	EHL	9.8
4	SONALIPAPR	5.9
5	JHRML	5.4

Table: P/E ratio of sectors vs market



Source: DSE, City Brokerage Limited

## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: NATIONAL (BASE: 2005-06=100)

Period	General Index	Index by expenditure group								
		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,	VIII. Mise. Goods & Services
2013-14	<b>195.08</b>	<b>209.79</b>	<b>176.23</b>	194.77	163.47	206.14	164.06	167.20	164.38	193.75
2014-15	<b>207.58</b>	<b>223.80</b>	<b>186.79</b>	204.50	171.80	214.45	180.77	181.78	168.02	204.21
2015-16	<b>219.86</b>	<b>234.77</b>	<b>200.66</b>	233.38	182.74	227.39	199.94	201.34	171.01	211.61
2016-17	<b>231.82</b>	<b>248.90</b>	<b>209.92</b>	243.56	194.01	235.85	206.70	210.78	177.56	217.51
2017-18	<b>245.22</b>	<b>266.64</b>	<b>217.76</b>	255.24	200.25	249.68	209.28	218.80	183.65	223.81
2018-19	<b>258.65</b>	<b>281.33</b>	<b>229.58</b>	277.64	206.98	265.25	215.31	235.23	186.72	239.87
2019-20	<b>273.26</b>	<b>296.86</b>	<b>243.00</b>	290.00	220.70	282.67	230.07	248.48	190.13	259.27
2020-21	<b>288.44</b>	<b>313.86</b>	<b>255.85</b>	298.14	228.29	298.15	247.86	271.45	193.61	288.53
2022										
May	<b>309.28</b>	<b>334.02</b>	<b>277.57</b>	329.40	235.01	328.40	255.05	320.76	207.47	321.15
June	<b>313.76</b>	<b>340.48</b>	<b>279.50</b>	331.09	235.48	331.02	255.62	324.72	210.30	325.49
July	<b>315.13</b>	<b>341.91</b>	<b>280.80</b>	332.97	235.87	331.60	256.22	325.44	211.78	331.52
August	<b>326.06</b>	<b>355.16</b>	<b>288.76</b>	334.36	247.15	336.03	280.11	333.15	213.44	335.56
September	<b>331.88</b>	<b>362.77</b>	<b>292.29</b>	337.21	248.08	341.28	293.16	337.74	214.28	341.13
October	<b>334.89</b>	<b>366.39</b>	<b>294.51</b>	338.17	248.79	344.34	294.93	341.86	215.27	349.33
November	<b>333.07</b>	<b>360.75</b>	<b>297.58</b>	340.91	249.07	349.61	302.73	347.60	215.98	355.45

Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: RURAL (BASE: 2005-06=100)

Period	General Index	Index by expenditure group								
		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,	VIII. Mise. Goods & Services
2012-13	<b>183.90</b>	<b>192.14</b>	<b>170.79</b>	184.54	157.40	186.40	164.63	160.98	174.07	187.05
2013-14	<b>196.90</b>	<b>207.72</b>	<b>179.69</b>	200.61	164.05	197.62	168.87	166.01	179.72	199.74
2014-15	<b>209.10</b>	<b>221.02</b>	<b>190.13</b>	214.07	171.34	209.29	187.18	174.09	183.84	212.34
2015-16	<b>220.10</b>	<b>230.31</b>	<b>203.86</b>	242.26	179.19	222.11	211.04	188.69	187.84	221.12
2016-17	<b>231.02</b>	<b>243.08</b>	<b>211.83</b>	253.51	187.45	229.57	219.35	193.71	194.81	226.47
2017-18	<b>244.17</b>	<b>259.86</b>	<b>219.21</b>	263.96	192.89	246.23	221.15	197.24	201.31	233.72
2018-19	<b>256.74</b>	<b>273.55</b>	<b>230.01</b>	282.76	198.99	261.30	225.86	207.51	205.05	253.71
2019-20	<b>271.20</b>	<b>289.08</b>	<b>242.74</b>	292.21	212.44	277.56	242.40	217.05	208.93	275.65
2020-21	<b>286.37</b>	<b>306.40</b>	<b>254.51</b>	298.86	220.23	286.65	264.04	234.11	214.52	305.80
2022										
May	<b>308.39</b>	<b>328.63</b>	<b>276.18</b>	328.08	226.63	315.29	271.51	283.16	230.86	340.13
June	<b>312.32</b>	<b>333.83</b>	<b>278.08</b>	329.96	226.87	319.12	271.76	285.26	234.08	345.61
July	<b>313.63</b>	<b>335.19</b>	<b>279.32</b>	331.65	227.11	320.01	271.84	285.68	235.76	352.18
August	<b>323.85</b>	<b>346.75</b>	<b>287.41</b>	332.69	241.96	321.09	301.37	287.92	236.55	353.55
September	<b>329.86</b>	<b>354.23</b>	<b>291.09</b>	335.74	241.92	321.09	320.59	291.17	237.10	360.68
October	<b>333.40</b>	<b>358.50</b>	<b>293.47</b>	336.71	242.66	328.39	323.14	294.21	238.13	370.53
November	<b>331.51</b>	<b>353.44</b>	<b>296.61</b>	340.15	242.71	331.66	335.30	300.39	239.48	372.64

Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics



## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: URBAN (BASE: 2005-06=100)

Period	General Index	Index by expenditure group								
		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,	VIII. Misc. Goods & Services
2013-14	<b>199.73</b>	<b>214.85</b>	<b>171.61</b>	183.66	162.80	221.11	155.82	168.52	147.83	186.37
2014-15	<b>204.76</b>	<b>230.56</b>	<b>182.32</b>	197.93	172.33	223.53	169.80	190.26	150.95	194.16
2015-16	<b>219.31</b>	<b>245.66</b>	<b>196.39</b>	216.50	186.86	236.67	180.93	215.50	152.84	199.87
2016-17	<b>233.29</b>	<b>263.09</b>	<b>207.38</b>	224.66	201.60	246.87	185.05	229.59	158.93	206.45
2017-18	<b>247.17</b>	<b>283.19</b>	<b>215.83</b>	238.67	208.77	255.74	188.96	242.55	164.59	211.57
2018-19	<b>262.17</b>	<b>300.30</b>	<b>229.00</b>	267.92	216.22	272.20	197.25	265.77	166.95	222.78
2019-20	<b>277.06</b>	<b>315.83</b>	<b>243.34</b>	285.82	230.27	291.66	208.97	283.12	169.81	239.06
2020-21	<b>292.27</b>	<b>332.08</b>	<b>257.64</b>	296.78	237.63	318.36	220.17	312.59	171.05	267.20
2022										
May	<b>310.94</b>	<b>347.17</b>	<b>279.43</b>	331.90	244.72	351.46	226.89	362.20	182.24	297.71
June	<b>316.43</b>	<b>356.70</b>	<b>281.39</b>	333.24	245.44	351.94	227.98	368.20	184.64	300.64
July	<b>317.90</b>	<b>358.28</b>	<b>282.78</b>	335.49	246.01	351.99	229.50	369.26	185.92	306.02
August	<b>330.15</b>	<b>335.62</b>	<b>290.55</b>	337.53	253.16	362.30	243.72	383.00	188.51	313.36
September	<b>335.62</b>	<b>383.59</b>	<b>293.88</b>	339.99	255.20	370.67	246.22	389.06	189.65	316.99
October	<b>337.64</b>	<b>385.64</b>	<b>295.88</b>	340.94	255.88	372.39	246.65	394.38	190.60	323.15
November	<b>335.95</b>	<b>378.58</b>	<b>298.87</b>	342.34	256.44	381.17	246.99	399.63	190.62	334.23

Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

## WAGE RATE INDEX BY SECTORS: BANGLADESH (BASE: 2010-11=100)

Sector	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	September '22	October '22	November '22
General	160.23	170.39	180.83	199.98	201.75	203.97
percentage change (Point to Point)	6.40	6.35	6.12	6.86	6.91	6.98
percentage change (over previous month)				0.97	0.89	1.10
<b>1. Agriculture</b>	<b>159.92</b>	<b>170.28</b>	<b>181.16</b>	<b>200.21</b>	<b>202.07</b>	<b>204.50</b>
percentage change (over previous month)	6.42	6.48	6.39	6.80	6.85	6.90
percentage change (over previous month)				1.08	0.93	1.20
i) Agriculture	159.91	170.32	181.23	200.42	202.31	204.77
percentage change (Point to Point)	6.44	6.51	6.41	6.84	6.89	6.95
percentage change (over previous month)				1.08	0.94	1.22
ii) Fish	160.59	168.58	177.84	189.60	190.02	190.70
percentage change (Point to Point)	5.22	4.97	5.49	4.66	4.87	4.46
percentage change (over previous month)				1.03	0.22	0.36
<b>2. Industry</b>	<b>158.74</b>	<b>168.24</b>	<b>177.52</b>	<b>196.13</b>	<b>197.80</b>	<b>199.58</b>
percentage change (Point to Point)	6.22	5.99	5.51	6.92	6.97	7.06
percentage change (over previous month)				0.74	0.85	0.90
i) Construction	152.86	160.17	167.24	180.67	182.00	183.22
percentage change (Point to Point)	5.19	4.77	4.42	5.41	5.45	5.52
percentage change (over previous month)				0.71	0.74	0.67
ii) Production	170.66	184.65	198.37	227.47	229.84	232.75
percentage change (Point to Point)	8.14	8.21	7.43	9.45	9.49	9.61
percentage change (over previous month)				0.80	1.04	1.27
<b>3. Service</b>	<b>164.78</b>	<b>175.33</b>	<b>185.99</b>	<b>204.89</b>	<b>208.30</b>	<b>210.40</b>
percentage change (Point to Point)	6.69	6.41	6.07	7.05	7.11	7.17
percentage change (over previous month)				0.90	0.75	1.01

Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

# KOBELCO

*Power Meets Efficiency*



SK 220 XDLC



SK 220 XDLC  
Long Reach



SK 140 HDLC

# CASE

CONSTRUCTION

*Experts for The Real World*



CASE 770EX  
MAGNUM



CASE 1107EX-D



CASE 752 EX

# LOVOL

CONSTRUCTION

*Transference and Inheritance  
of Advanced Technology*



FL936 H



FR80E



FL956 Hv



## ACI Construction Equipment

ALL AROUND SOLUTIONS FOR YOUR  
**CONSTRUCTION NEEDS**



## ESCORTS



# AJAX

MAKES CONCRETE SENSE



Batching Plant



Self Loading  
Concrete Mixer



Stationary  
Pump



**ACI Construction  
Equipment**

ACI Centre, 245 Tejgaon I/A, Dhaka-1208

✉ info@acimotors-bd.com

🌐 www.acimotors-bd.com

Cell +8801708 144 593, +8801713 053 232 & +8801730 028 547



# TRANSTEC

## SMALL APPLIANCES



LCD/LED | COLOR TV | REFRIGERATOR | FREEZER | AIR CONDITIONER | WASHING MACHINE | SMALL APPLIANCES

Visit: [www.transcomdigital.com](http://www.transcomdigital.com)

A **TRANSCOM** Product





আমার হাতে আমার ব্যাংক

আমার হাতেই  
ব্যাংকিং এখন  
২৪ ঘণ্টা যখন-তখন



## ডিজিটাল ব্যাংকিং সেবা আছে পৃথিবীর সবখানে মোবাইল অ্যাপ আর ওয়েব ভার্সনে

- কম্পিউটার, ট্যাব, স্মার্ট ফোন, স্মার্ট ওয়াচ-এর মাধ্যমে ব্যবহার করা যায়
- সময় ও অর্থ সাশ্রয়ী তাৎক্ষণিক ব্যাংকিং সেবা
- ব্যাংকে না এসেই একাউন্ট পরিচালনা
- বিনা খরচে দেশে নিজের একাউন্ট/কার্ড থেকে যেকোনো ব্যাংকের একাউন্ট/কার্ডে টাকা পাঠানো
- যাকে টাকা পাঠাচ্ছেন তার ছবি অ্যাড করা
- বিভিন্ন ধরনের খরচ ক্যাটাগরি অনুসারে সাজানো
- মাসওয়ারি ১২ মাসের স্টেটমেন্ট প্রাপ্তি-সহ বিবিধ সুবিধা পাওয়া যায়।

প্লে স্টোর/অ্যাপ স্টোর থেকে  
ডাউনলোড করতে টাইপ করুন  
IFIC আমার ব্যাংক



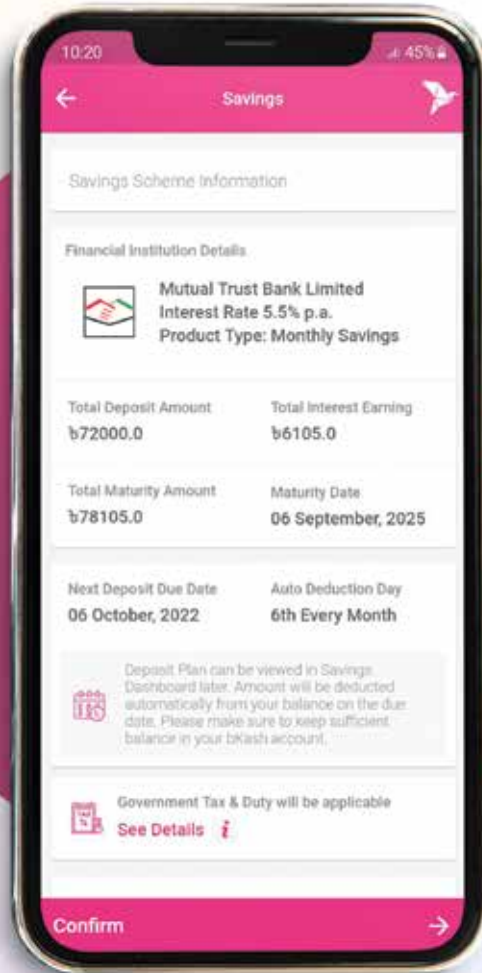
সরাসরি লগ-ইন  
<https://digitalbanking.ificbankbd.com>

IFICBankLimited

☎ ১৬২৫৫ ☎ +৮৮০ ৯৬৬৬৭ ১৬২৫৫



# অল্প অল্প সঞ্চয় ভবিষ্যতে সহায় হয়!



এমটিবি'তে সঞ্চয় করুন  
এখন বিকাশ অ্যাপে।

\*সর্ব প্রযোজ্য

CALL  
16219



**MTB**<sup>TM</sup>

[mutualtrustbank.com](http://mutualtrustbank.com)

[Tweet2MTB](#)

[f Mutual.Trust.Bank](#)



standard  
chartered

## ▶ How you start in life shouldn't determine your future ◀

In the past 3 years, Futuremakers by Standard Chartered has supported more than 650,000 young people around the world, empowering them to learn, earn and grow.

Learn more at [sc.com/hereforgood](https://sc.com/hereforgood)

here for  
good



## 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 certificates of origin, and, through conducting economic research and sector surveys, offering trade and investment facilitation services, legal services, information management and dissemination, and 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, etc. MCCI has a long history of joint collaboration. It interacts regularly with major international trade bodies and many private sector organizations located all over the world.