

## MCCI, Policy Exchange organise view exchange with journalists on PMI for Bangladesh

[UNB](#)

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The Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka (MCCI), in collaboration with Policy Exchange Bangladesh (PEB), organised a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with journalists on the Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) for Bangladesh.

The programme was held at MCCI's Motijheel office with the support of the Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (FCDO) on Saturday.

The primary objective of the FGD was to raise awareness about the recently launched PMI for Bangladesh so that the national media could accurately document and cover it.

The PMI is a leading economic indicator that helps understand the economic health of a country. It provides insights into key economic sectors and captures early trends. The PMI data index is compiled from monthly surveys of private sector enterprises. The programme was formally launched in Bangladesh on February 5, 2024.

In his welcome remarks, the MCCI Secretary-General and CEO said that the PMI was already in use in many countries to gauge the economic health of a nation.

The purpose of this FGD was to disseminate information and effectively convey the details of the PMI to the media community, facilitating their documentation and coverage. He was confident that it would bring clarity to many matters.

The PEB Chairman said that since the PMI offered quantified descriptions, comparison and quantification were possible. Although the PMI was launched in early February 2024, there was 1.5 years of preparation behind it. He believed it would be beneficial for making decisions and policies.

Hasnat Alam, Senior Manager, Market and Policy Advisory, PEB, gave a brief presentation on the PMI programme, followed by an open discussion.

It was clarified that the PMI will simply reveal the variance in economic activity, not exact figures sensitive to businesses.

**[www.thefinancialexpress.com.bd](http://www.thefinancialexpress.com.bd) / 18 February 2024**

## **PMI implementation in Bangladesh**

# **Securing survey data timely, integrating responses identified as challenges**

## **PMI is a leading economic indicator which helps understand the economic health of a country**

February 18, 2024 00:00:00

### **FE REPORT**

Securing survey data within expected timeline and incorporating responses from firms operating in informal economy are some of the challenges in implementing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), according to Dr M Masrur Reaz, chairman and CEO of Policy Exchange Bangladesh.

However, he highlighted that the issue of survey data response is a common concern in Bangladesh.

Keeping this view in mind, Dr Masrur said, MCCI and Policy Exchange Bangladesh have undertaken a number of mitigation measures, including awareness raising, leveraging networks of private sector chambers and associations, and excluding any sensitive business information from the survey questions.

Dr Reaz came up with the remarks at a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with journalists on the PMI for Bangladesh at its Motijheel office on Saturday.

Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka (MCCI), in collaboration with Policy Exchange Bangladesh (PEB), with the support of the Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (FCDO), organised the discussion.

The primary objective of the FGD was to raise awareness about the recently launched PMI for Bangladesh so that the national media could accurately document and cover it.

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In his welcome remarks, Farooq Ahmed, secretary-general and CEO of MCCI, said that the PMI was already in use in many countries to gauge the economic health of a nation.

The purpose of this FGD was to disseminate information and effectively convey the details of the PMI to the media community, facilitating their documentation and coverage, according to him.

Hasnat Alam, senior manager, Market and Policy Advisory, PEB, gave a brief presentation on the PMI programme. This was followed by an open discussion.

Topics that came up in the discussion include the comparison of PMI with other indicators, its interpretation, challenges, scope, the need for PMI-interpretation training programmes for reporters, and many more.

It was clarified that the PMI will simply reveal the variance in economic activity and not exact figures sensitive to businesses.

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**[www.thedailystar.net](http://www.thedailystar.net) / 18 February 2024**

## Businesses uninterested in surveys for a lack of awareness

**Says economist at a discussion on Purchasing Managers' Index**



Photo: Md Asaduz Zaman

Businesses in Bangladesh generally do not respond to surveys as they are reluctant to share information due to a lack of awareness of its benefits, according to an economist.

"In general, of firms approached for surveys in Bangladesh, a significant percentage don't respond to the surveys due to their shyness ...and a lack of awareness on how they can benefit from a particular survey-led work," said Masrur Reaz, chairman and CEO of the Policy Exchange of Bangladesh (PEB).

He was addressing a discussion with journalists at the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI), Dhaka yesterday on the recently launched Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI).

"We are facing challenges relating to the lack of survey culture in conducting the PMI's survey," said Reaz.

Companies often shy away over concerns centring potential misuse of the data, he added.

With support from the UK government's Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (FCDO), the MCCI and PEB launched the surveys on February 5 for the first time to gauge the country's economic situation.

The PMI is a leading economic indicator that helps provide a picture of a nation's economic health.

In essence, the index summarises whether market conditions are expanding, staying the same or contracting, as viewed by purchasing managers.

The index is measured within a range of 0 to 100, with a PMI of more than 50 representing expansion compared to the previous month while a reading of under 50 represents contraction. "The first report is expected to be published in May and will be compiled from monthly surveys of private-sector enterprises," said Reaz.

Although the index was launched in early February this year, there was one and a half years of preparation behind it, he added.

He believed the PMI would be beneficial for businesses in taking decisions and adopting policies.

Hasnat Alam, senior manager of market and policy advisory of the PEB, gave a brief presentation on the fundamentals and practicality of the PMI.

Farooq Ahmed, secretary general and CEO of the MCCI, and Refayet Ullah Mirdha, president of Economic Reporters' Forum, also spoke at the event.

**[www.newagebd.net](http://www.newagebd.net) / 18 February 2024**

## **PMI will be beneficial in making decisions, policies: experts**

[Staff Correspondent](#) | Published: 23:09, Feb 17, 2024



Introduction of Purchasing Managers' Index would be a reliable leading indicator for policymakers, businesses and analysts to understand health and dynamism of countries economy, experts said on Saturday.

At a focus group discussion on the PMI for Bangladesh organised by the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka, in collaboration with Policy Exchange Bangladesh, they said that although the PMI was launched in early February, there was 1.5 years of preparation behind it and the index would be published from May on a monthly basis.

The index would provide insights into the key economic drivers such as gross domestic product, inflation, exports, capacity utilisation, employment and inventories, PEB chairman M Masrur Reaz said.

He said that it would be beneficial for making decisions and policies as the index would indicate expansion and contraction of the country's major economic sectors.

Masrur Reaz also said that since the PMI offered quantified description, comparison and quantification were possible.

MCCI secretary general Farooq Ahmed said that the PMI was already in use in many countries to gauge the economic health of a nation.

The purpose of this FGD was to disseminate information and effectively convey the details of the PMI to the media community, facilitating their documentation and coverage.

PEB senior manager Hasnat Alam gave a brief presentation clarifying that the PMI would simply reveal variance in economic activity and not exact figures sensitive to businesses.

The MCCI with the support of the UK Government's Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office launched the index on February 5.

**[www.tbsnews.net](http://www.tbsnews.net) / 18 February 2024**

## **PMI to work as economic pulse tracker**

**The index will be published monthly from May**



M Masrur Reaz, chairman of Policy Exchange Bangladesh (PEB), announced the launch of the index during a focus group discussion on PMI for Bangladesh with journalists at the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) in Dhaka on Saturday (17 February). Photo: Collected

**The Purchasing Managers Index (PMI), a newly launched initiative, will serve as a key indicator of the country's economic health, according to M Masrur Reaz, chairman of Policy Exchange Bangladesh (PEB).**

The index will be published monthly starting in May, he said during a focus group discussion on PMI for Bangladesh with journalists at the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) in Dhaka on Saturday.

MCCI, in collaboration with PEB and supported by the Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office, will oversee the index publication.

Masrur Reaz emphasised PMI's role in providing early insights into economic conditions, market dynamics, and sectoral trends. This information, he stated, will be valuable for informed business and investment decisions, as well as timely policymaking.

The PMI, an economic indicator based on the perceptions of purchasing managers across four key sectors – agriculture, construction, manufacturing, and services – offers a score ranging from 0 to 100 based on major survey areas such as demand, inventory, production, deliveries and employment.

Scores above 50 suggest expansion, while values below depict contraction within a particular sector.

PEB Senior Manager (Market and Policy Advisory) Hasnat Alam delivered a brief presentation on the programme.

Additionally, MCCI Secretary General and Chief Executive Officer Farooq Ahmed highlighted the widespread use of PMI as a tool for gauging national economic health, citing its established presence in Asian countries like China, Japan, Indonesia, Vietnam, and India.

**[www.daily-sun.com](http://www.daily-sun.com) / 18 February 2024**

## **PMI to gauge country's economic health monthly from May**

**Daily Sun Report, Dhaka**

Saturday, 17 February, 2024, 08:02PM

Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), a leading economic indicator, which will help to understand the country's economic health, and direct to reform policy to be announced finally each month from many this year.

Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka (MCCI) launched the index in collaboration with Policy Exchange Bangladesh (PEB), with the support of the Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (FCDO).

“The index will be finally announced from April/May this year. We initially launched our activity in 2022. After long discussion with different stakeholders, we started our pilot survey. We have already completed our two surveys on major economic sectors particularly agriculture, construction, manufacturing and services,” PEB chairman Dr M Masrur Reaz said.

He made the remarks at a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with journalists on the PMI for Bangladesh at the programme held at MCCI’s Motijheel office in Dhaka on Saturday.

Dr Masrur added that they will go in final round after completing addition two surveys which would complete by April. The programme was formally launched in Bangladesh on 5 February 2024.

The PEB Chairman said that since the PMI offered quantified description, comparison and quantification were possible. He believed it would be beneficial for making decisions and policies.

“The PMI is the best practice in the globe to know economic direction of a country. It will help policy makers to take action plan timely. Bangladesh has not proper and updated data on trade market. All businessmen, investors and policymakers have to face a problem,” he also added.

**[www.bangladeshpost.net](http://www.bangladeshpost.net) / 18 February 2024**

## PMI helps understand economic health

### Experts tell FGD on PMI for Bangladesh

By [Staff Correspondent](#)

Published : 17 Feb 2024 09:10 PM



The PMI is a leading economic indicator which helps understand the economic health of a country. It provides insights into key economic sectors and captures early trends, speakers at a discussion session observed on Saturday.

Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka (MCCI), in collaboration with Policy Exchange Bangladesh (PEB), with the support of the Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (FCDO), organized a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) on the Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) for Bangladesh on Saturday at its Motijheel office.

The PMI data index is compiled from monthly surveys of private sector enterprises. The program was formally launched in Bangladesh on 5 February 2024.

In his welcome remarks, the MCCI Secretary-General and CEO said that the PMI was already in use in many countries to gauge the economic health of a nation.

The purpose of this FGD was to disseminate information and effectively convey the details of the PMI to the media community, facilitating their documentation and coverage.

The PEB Chairman said that since the PMI offered quantified description, comparison and quantification were possible. Although the PMI was launched in early February 2024, there was 1.5 years of preparation behind it.

Hasnat Alam, Senior Manager, Market and Policy Advisory, PEB gave a brief presentation on the PMI program.

**[www.observerbd.com](http://www.observerbd.com) / 18 February 2024**

## **MCCI hosts FGD with journalists on PMI**

Published : Sunday, 18 February, 2024 at 12:00 AM

*Business Correspondent*

The Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka (MCCI), in collaboration with Policy Exchange Bangladesh (PEB), with the support of the Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (FCDO), held a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with journalists on the Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) for Bangladesh on Saturday at its Motijheel office.

The primary objective of the FGD was to raise awareness about the recently launched PMI for Bangladesh so that the national media could accurately document and cover it.

The PMI is a leading economic indicator which helps understand the economic health of a country. It provides insights into key economic sectors and captures early trends, said a press release.

The PMI data index is compiled from monthly surveys of private sector enterprises. The program was formally launched in Bangladesh on February 5, 2024.

In his welcome remarks, MCCI secretary general and CEO Farooq Ahmed said that the PMI was already in use in many countries to gauge the economic health of a



nation.

The purpose of this FGD was to disseminate information and effectively convey the details of the PMI to the media community, facilitating their documentation and coverage. He was confident that it would bring clarity to many matters.

PEB Chairman Dr M Masrur Reaz said that since the PMI offered quantified description, comparison and quantification were possible. Although the PMI was launched in early February 2024, there was 1.5 years of preparation behind it. He believed it would be beneficial for making decisions and policies.

Hasnat Alam, senior manager, market and policy advisory, PEB gave a brief presentation on the PMI program. This was followed by an open discussion.

Topics that came up in the discussion include the comparison of PMI with other indicators, its interpretation, challenges, scope, the need for PMI-interpretation training programs for reporters, and many more.

It was clarified that the PMI will simply reveal the variance in economic activity and not exact figures sensitive to businesses.

**[www.unb.com.bd](http://www.unb.com.bd) / 18 February 2024**

## MCCI organises view exchange with journalists on PMI for Bangladesh

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- Dhaka
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**[www.bssnews.net](http://www.bssnews.net) / 18 February 2024**

## **MCCI hosts FGD with journalists on the Purchasing Managers' Index for Bangladesh**



DHAKA, Feb 17, 2024 (BSS) - The Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka (MCCI), in collaboration with Policy Exchange Bangladesh (PEB), with the support of the Foreign,

Commonwealth, and Development Office (FCDO), organized a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with journalists on the Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) for Bangladesh today at its Motijheel office.

The primary objective of the FGD was to raise awareness about the recently launched PMI for Bangladesh so that the national media could accurately document and cover it.

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**[www.bdnews24.com](http://www.bdnews24.com) / 18 February 2024**

## **Bangladesh to launch PMI index to measure economic trends in manufacturing**

**The Purchasing Managers' Index is used to determine the direction of economic trends in a country's manufacturing and service sectors**



Staff Correspondentbdnews24.com

Published : 17 Feb 2024, 10:39 PM

Updated : 17 Feb 2024, 10:39 PM

Bangladesh is preparing to launch a Purchasing Managers' Index or PMI to assess the dynamics of the economy more accurately.

The PMI is used to determine the direction of economic trends in a country's manufacturing and service sectors.

Data will be collected from 500 institutions across the country monthly, and following analysis, the PMI index will be released at the start of each month, M Masrur Reaz, the chairman and CEO of Policy Exchange Bangladesh (PEB), announced during a press conference at the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry office in Dhaka's Motijheel on Saturday.

The first PMI index of the country is expected to be published in May.

The MCCI, in collaboration with the private research organisation PEB, will publish the index, and the initiative is supported by the UK government's Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (FCDO).

This index will provide the private sector and the government with an overview of the country's economic performance in the previous month and forecasts for the current month, said Masrur.

He said the PMI index will be compiled using data from four sectors: agriculture, manufacturing, construction, and services.



According to Masrur, the index helps understand how different sectors are doing. "If there's a big change in a sector, it will prompt closer examination by government and policymakers."

The data released with the PMI index for the month gives a basic idea of whether these four sectors have seen progress or decline, he said.



The index is measured on a scale of 0 to 100, where a PMI above 50 indicates expansion compared to the previous month, while a reading below 50 indicates contraction.

If the index value is 50, it signifies that the economy is in a stagnant state.

Masrur remarked, "If there's a major shift in a sector's data within one month, it will allow us to explore the reasons behind it."

Countries like India, Vietnam, Japan, Indonesia, and others worldwide are publishing the PMI index.

The PEB chairman explained that the process is entirely observational, stating, "The observation will determine if there are any issues in the economy such as a recession or an epidemic."

Farooq Ahmed, secretary general of MCCI, said the PMI index will only observe the economy without conflicting with any of its principles.

He assured that if any issues arise, MCCI will communicate with the government as needed.

**www.bonikbarta.net / 18 February 2024**

এমসিসিআইয়ের সভায় বক্তারা

## আন্তর্জাতিক বাণিজ্য সম্প্রসারণে উপাত্ত সহজলভ্য করতে হবে

নিজস্ব প্রতিবেদক

ফেব্রুয়ারি ১৮, ২০২৪

দেশে বিভিন্ন খাতের হালনাগাদ তথ্য পাওয়া একটি বড় চ্যালেঞ্জ। ফলে ব্যবসা, বিনিয়োগ বা আর্থিক কোনো সিদ্ধান্ত নিতেও সমস্যায় পড়েন সংশ্লিষ্ট ব্যক্তিরা। বিদেশী বিনিয়োগকারীরাও সহজে সঠিক তথ্য চান। এখানে বাণিজ্যের পরিবেশ এবং সম্ভাবনা নিয়েও তারা জানতে চান। আমাদের পণ্যের ক্রেতা প্রতিষ্ঠানগুলোও এখানকার নানা তথ্য জানতে চান। তাই আন্তর্জাতিক বাণিজ্য সম্প্রসারণে উপাত্ত সহজলভ্য করতে হবে। যাতে ব্যবসা-বাণিজ্যের সঙ্গে সংশ্লিষ্ট সবাই সহজে যেকোনো সিদ্ধান্ত নিতে পারেন। এতে দেশী-বিদেশী বিনিয়োগ বাড়বে। সেই প্রেক্ষাপট বিবেচনায় পারচেজিং ম্যানেজারস ইনডেক্স (পিএমআই) সূচক কাজ করছে। সুনির্দিষ্ট ও সহজে বোধগম্য কিছু তথ্যের ভিত্তিতে সূচকটি তৈরি ও প্রকাশ করা হবে। গতকাল রাজধানীর মতিঝিলে মেট্রোপলিটন চেম্বার অব কমার্স অ্যান্ড ইন্ডাস্ট্রি (এমসিসিআই) কার্যালয়ে আয়োজিত এক আলোচনায় বক্তারা এসব কথা বলেন।

পিএমআই সূচকের মাধ্যমে সরকারি-বেসরকারি সব প্রতিষ্ঠান, উন্নয়ন-সহযোগী ও বিনিয়োগকারীরা উপকৃত হবেন জানিয়ে পলিসি এক্সচেঞ্জের চেয়ারম্যান এম মশরুর রিয়াজ বলেন, ‘আমরা স্বল্পোন্নত দেশের (এলডিসি) তালিকা থেকে উত্তরণের পথে রয়েছি। এছাড়া ২০৪১ সালের মধ্যে উন্নত দেশ হতে চাইলে দেশী-বিদেশী বিপুল বিনিয়োগ দরকার। কিন্তু বিনিয়োগের আগে ব্যবসা-বাণিজ্যের হালনাগাদ তথ্য জানতে চান বিনিয়োগকারীরা। এখানে ব্যবসা করলে খরচ কেমন হবে, লাভ কেমন হবে, পরিবেশ কেমন, অবকাঠামো তৈরিতে কতটুকু সময় লাগবে ইত্যাদি তথ্য তারা জানতে চান। ফলে

বিশ্বাসযোগ্য ও নির্ভরযোগ্য তথ্য না পেলে তারা কোনো সম্ভাবনাকেই সত্য বলে মেনে নেন না। এক্ষেত্রে পিএমআই সূচক বিনিয়োগকারী ও সরকার—উভয়ের জন্যই সহায়ক হবে। পাশাপাশি দেশের অর্থনৈতিক চ্যালেঞ্জগুলো সহজে নির্ণয় এবং সেটি মোকাবেলায় লক্ষ্য নির্ধারণ করা যাবে দ্রুত সময়ে।’

এমসিসিআই ও বেসরকারি গবেষণা প্রতিষ্ঠান পলিসি এক্সচেঞ্জ যৌথভাবে এ সূচক প্রকাশের উদ্যোগ নিয়েছে। এতে সহযোগিতা করছে যুক্তরাজ্যের ফরেন, কমনওয়েলথ অ্যান্ড ডেভেলপমেন্ট কার্যালয় (এফসিডিও)।