



The Apparel Story

Jan-Feb 2015

Spotlight
**BUFT forging
bright future**

Special Interview
Tofail Ahmed
Commerce Minister

**Garment Industrial Park:
A Stride toward
Sustainability**



BANGLADESH GARMENT MANUFACTURERS & EXPORTERS ASSOCIATION



Right Place Right Time

Our Services

- FCL/LCL Sea Shipments (Export & Import)
- Air Freight (Export & Import)
- Project Cargo Handling
- Sea-Air Solutions
- Break Bulk Shipments
- Warehouse & Distributions

Our Value Added Services

- Customs Clearance
- Cargo Insurance
- Inland Transportation (Truck & Rail)
- Delivery service by ship
- International Trade Documentation Management



www.tad-logistic.com

Dhaka Office:

House # 257/A (5th Floor), Flat # 2A, 5A & 5B, Road # 19
New DOHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1206
Tel # +88-02-9889106, 8712227, 8750530, Fax # +88-02-8712226

Chittagong Office:

Al Madina Tower (1st Floor)
88/89, Agrabad Commercial Area, Chittagong
Phone # +88 01915 026625

*“Can I forget the twenty-first of February
incarnadined by the love of my brother?
The twenty-first of February, built by the tears
of a hundred mothers robbed of their sons,
Can I ever forget it?”*



Homage to the Heroes of '52

On the occasion of Ekushey February, the International Mother Language Day, we pay tribute to the martyrs of the Language Movement of 1952 who made their supreme sacrifice for establishing the dignity of our mother tongue.



BANGLADESH
DENIM

E X P O

**YOUR JEANS
MADE HERE**

11TH & 12TH MAY 2015

RADISSON BLU WATER GARDEN HOTEL, DHAKA, BANGLADESH
WWW.BANGLADESHDENIMEXPO.COM

AND FOLLOW US!





After ascent to the second position in the global apparel realm, what appears to be most important for the readymade garment industry of Bangladesh is to move up the ladder in a sustainable way. This realization is one of the bases of the industrial garment park to be built at Baushia in Munshiganj. This park will be a milestone in the history of our RMG industry, ushering a new era in the sector. Setting up of the industrial park signifies that our industry is now growing in a more planned way than before. We believe what the sector needs now is sincere support from the stakeholders concerned for more such planned garment villages which will help our industry's move forward in a steady and sustainable way. The cover story of this issue sheds lights on the details of the park to satisfy queries of our valued readers about it.

We know the journey towards success is always full of challenges. Our RMG industry too is facing numerous challenges in its march forward, and energy crisis, especially shortage of gas, is one of them. With the expansion of the industry, the demand for energy has also increased manifold. A report on gas crisis currently facing by the RMG industry unfolds the causes and solutions to the problem. This issue also contains interviews of the Commerce Minister of Bangladesh and Nobel Laureate Prof. Amartya Sen, a special feature on the BGMEA University of Fashion and Technology (BUFT), and a recap on the happenings of the previous year as well as some other interesting features in the regular segments. We hope all the articles and features included in this compendium will keep our valued readers up-to-date with the apparel industry.

Md. Shahidullah AZim
Vice President, BGMEA

www.paradisecables.com



PARADISE

ONLY CABLE
COMPANY IN BANGLADESH **EXPORTING
WORLDWIDE**

NETHERLANDS

UK



SISTER CONCERN

 **SBS CABLES**



Your Safety Is Our Priority

**QUALITY
ASSURANCE**

**99.99%
PURE COPPER**

**LOW SMOKE
ZERO HALOGEN**

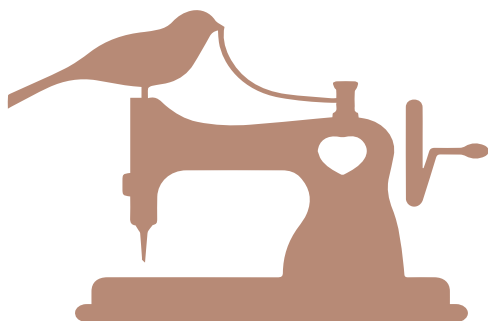
**FLAME
RETARDANT**

**SAVES 25%
ELECTRICITY BILL**



Disclaimer:

The Apparel Story is published for private circulation by Bangladesh Gament Manufacturers & Exporters Association (BGMEA). BGMEA assumes no responsibility for the correctness of items quoted in the magazine although every effort is made to give information from sources believed to be reliable.



The Apparel Story

Editorial Board:

Md Shahidullah Azim

Mamun Rashid

Editorial Staff:

Nur Mohammad Amin Rasel (*Content Planning*)

Omar Gias

Nasim Uddin

Magazine Team:

Emdadul Haque

Mohammad Monower Hossain

Nabila Jamal Rusha

A. K. M. Marzanul Islam Joy

UF Nahid Sultana

Tamanna Mahin

Musharrat Tarannum

Photographer:

Md. Obaidul Arif (Rana)

Designer:

Sk. Yeahhia

BGMEA Head Office:

BGMEA Complex,

23/1, Panthapath Link Road


Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215


Tel: +88-02-8140310-20

Fax: +88-02-8140322-23

Email: info@bgmea.com

Website: www.bgmea.com.bd

 [bgmea.official](https://www.facebook.com/bgmea.official)

 [bgmea](https://www.youtube.com/bgmea)

 [bgmeainfo](https://twitter.com/bgmeainfo)



CONTENT

- 01 Editorial
- 03 Content
- 07 Cover Story
Garment Industrial Park: A Stride toward Sustainability
- 10 Flash Back
2014: A Year of Turning Around for RMG Industry
- 15 Special Interview
Commerce Minister
- 18 Spotlight
BUFT Forging Bright Future
- 22 In Conversation with
Prof. Amartya Sen
- 24 Fashion & Style
Colors of Spring
- 26 Special Feature
Truly a Denim Expert
- 28 Open Opinions
- 30 ICC World Cup
All for the Tigers
- 33 Research and Innovation
Innovation for Value Addition
- 36 Towards Green
Zero Liquid Discharge
- 39 Focus of the Month
Need for Smooth Gas Supply to RMG Industry
- 42 News in Picture
- 46 Bulletin
- 50 Statistics
- 52 Market Brief
South Africa

the residence, the lifestyle, the address...

MIRROR
from oriental

Serenity is what we need...

The rapid urbanization of Dhaka city resulted in cramping the city with more buildings and little or no space to breathe. Serenity is important in the place we reside. The 'MIRROR', from Oriental, is designed in a way to provide the joy of serene living.

Exclusive luxurious apartments in the aristocratic residential area of Dhanmondi. These are just some of the amenities that MIRROR offers you...

swimming pool
gym
playground
jogging track
grand reception
cosy lounge
theater hall
community space
prayer room

High-end services include:

- Intruder Alarm for building perimeter
- Access Control • Video Door-phone/Intercom
 - Heat Detectors in every kitchen
- Electric geyser for every toilet & kitchen
 - Car Wash Area

The rest is for you to discover.

Hotline:

01841 067803

01841 067805

01841 067806

01841 067809

ORIENTAL
Real Estate Limited

Road 04, House 15, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka 1205, Bangladesh
PHONE: +88 02 8615398, 8618581, 8629906, 9665806, 9667383, 9669634
FAX: +88 02 9663383, EMAIL: info@orientalgroupbd.com, WEB: www.orientalgroupbd.com



MEMBER **REHAB**

Internet 2012_2013

Garment Industrial Park: A Stride toward Sustainability

By Nabila Jamal Rusha



T

The apparel industry in Bangladesh commenced in an unplanned way and at that time not a single area was allocated for garment factories. The factories started in rented rooms and buildings with the first order outside country being worth of only \$12000. With the passage of time the RMG sector has significantly improved, the industry became more planned and it is continuously striving for a growing sustainable future. Although getting complete supporting utility services for the factories is still under progress, the improvement is still exemplary and outstanding. The factory owners are arranging the required facilities on their own for making their factories more compliant. However, the owners have to face lots of constraints in every step to get the approval of utilities from the concerned departments. Against this backdrop, BGMEA, which has been trying hard to establish safe working environment, has felt the need for categorically relocating some of the factories in an industrial park so that each factory can avail all necessary facilities required.

Since 1990, BGMEA has been trying to set up a garment industrial park in a suitable place on the outskirts of Dhaka city where all modern industrial facilities can be provided. They have been trying to allocate a suitable location for the giant industrial park, but nothing comes easy in the land of struggle. But decisions regarding the selection of the land kept on changing and in the process some suitable lands for the park were slipped from the authority's hands. But finally the dream is soon going to become a reality. After the tragic Rana Plaza and Tazreen incidents the project got its momentum. The present government is providing all sorts of support to establish an industrial park on an area of 492 acres near Dhaka-Chittagong highway, adjacent to the Meghna River. It is expected that around 300 knit, woven, dyeing, sweater, accessories factories will be set up there.

The main objective of this industrial park will be to relocate the non-compliant factories that have been marked after all the inspections by Accord, Alliance and NAP. Also commissioning of this industrial park will boost economic activities of the country and about 3 billion USD per annum will be fetched from this industrial park when it becomes fully operational. The Government has taken significant initiatives for commissioning of this park and BGMEA is trying to build this park on the basis of EPZ model so that all sorts of facilities including fiscal incentives can be provided like those provided in BEPZA. Many foreign investors are showing their

investment from BGMEA. Finally BGMEA and Oriental International Holding signed a Framework Agreement following signing of an MoU for developing a new garment industrial park in Munshiganj. A feasibility study has been conducted, the report of which will determine the shares possessed by both BGMEA and OIH. After this the parties will adopt Joint Venture Mode and land will be acquired in the name of the Joint Venture (JV) Company. BGMEA will not share the price of the land or make any investment in the project. Another Environmental Impact Assessment will be conducted by a third party and will be assisted by BGMEA but the required fund will be provided

industrial park. The facilities to be provided in the industrial park are: fire station, bank and insurance services, central effluent treatment plant (cetp), river jetty, power plant, clinic, deep well with pump house, administrative buildings, gas connection provision, solid waste & dump station, road, drainage system etc. Adequate connecting internal roads, approach road, drainage system (both surface and waste water) will be there with proper design and as per requirement. Every factory will be connected with Central Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) for disposal of industrial liquid and sewerage water.



Layout of the Industrial Park

interest to financially and technically assist BGMEA in building this industrial park. KRD International, China is one international investor which has come forward to extend its support in establishing the garment industrial park. But since BGMEA does not have sufficient money of its own and attempting to collect money from the members did not succeed, it could not go along with the proposal of KRD International. At the same time, another proposal came from a Chinese company, Oriental International Holding (OIH), which agreed to invest in the industrial park with zero

by OIH. After the JV Company has been formed, a definitive agreement will be signed by both parties and on that basis, it is expected that by July 2015 work of the park will be started. As per Framework Agreement, OIH will pay the project cost including land price in the name of the JV Company and it is expected that the proposed project land will be handed over by the middle of 2015 to BGMEA-OIH JV Company. BGMEA members, especially the owners of non-compliant and vulnerable garment factories, will get special preference and priority to relocate their factories in this

Ehsan Ul Fattah, Secretary General BGMEA, said, "The vision with which BGMEA has taken up this project is exemplary. About 512 factories will be set up in the park which will create employment opportunity for 3 lac people, 80% of which will be female. Through relocating industries, environmental pollution and traffic congestion in Dhaka will be reduced to some extent. By this project, backward and forward linkage will be increased which will put a positive impact on the overall economy of the country. Distance will be reduced by about 70 km to 80 kilometers particularly from

Gazipur, Savar and Ashulia. This will be the first compliant industrial park in Bangladesh. The lead time will be significantly reduced and goods will reach Chittagong port directly through the river way."

Abu Reza Khan, former Chairman of Board of Investment and Advisor, Garment Industrial Park, said "It has become more difficult to arrange utility services like water, electricity and gas supply to these industrial units. Hence in order to accommodate most of the industrial units in the same location, the concept of setting up of Garment Industrial Park (GIP) has been introduced. The noncompliant units being operated in Dhaka city shall get the

park and this will eliminate the hassle in moving from factory to factory in different location. This obviously will attract the buyers by dint of managing their buying activities in a hassle free manner. Depending on the success of the proposed Garment Industrial Park, the same may be replicated in Chittagong and other places of the country enabling transforming Bangladesh as the highest fully compliant Garments exporter in the world."

The RMG industry has the vision of doubling its export value within the next seven years. Every time the challenges were brought forward, infrastructure seemed to be one of the biggest issues. The

Adequate connecting internal roads, approach road, drainage system (both surface and waste water) will be there with proper design and as per requirement. Every factory will be connected with Central Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) for disposal of industrial liquid and sewerage water

Studies, who said, "This industrial park should not only give a better environment for work, but also should accumulate workers from the nooks and corners of the country, providing residence for them and their family and giving them the chance to achieve social stability and financial independence."

BGMEA President Md. Atiqul Islam said, "We do not only want to make a cluster of factories, but the plan is to make a community where workers will live and work. They family members, be it young or old, will be part of that community, volunteering and learning within the same boundary. The kids will have schools and playgrounds and the elders will community work. Then only the workers will own their work and will create less unrest because causing havoc in that area will not only create havoc among its workers and management, but it will be like creating havoc in their own home where their family resides. Hence they will be more responsible and rightful. Happy and efficient workers will be more productive which will make the management happy. This will create an amazing and exemplary industrial relationship in the garment industrial park. The foundation of something bigger and better has been setup, and now proper cooperation and coordination will take the dream further with the hope of making Bangladesh RMG sector number one in the global apparel industry."



preference while allotting the plots/sheds.

He said mentioned, "The users of the industrial park will be benefitted because they will be in a position to avail all the services at their door steps. Moreover, since the park will be managed and operated by a single operator, the users would be able to avail the opportunity for a single contact point and will be free from the regulatory and bureaucratic entanglement. The factories set up in the park will be fully compliant by dint of meeting up all the compliant issues. As regards to the buyers, they can negotiate with the respective manufacturers in the

establishment of such an industrial park gives everyone the hope of realizing that dream. Of course there will be obstacles and laggings in any plan but with the momentum that the project is heading, is indeed remarkable.

RMG sector has always been number one in creating employment, employing 4.4 million workers directly in the sector. People thought that with advancement of technology the employment rate will decrease, but the entrepreneurs of this sector have always aimed for the welfare of the industry and their workers. There are many expectations from the industrial park, like Prof. Nazrul Islam, Chairman of Center for Urban

2014: A Year of Turning Around for RMG Industry

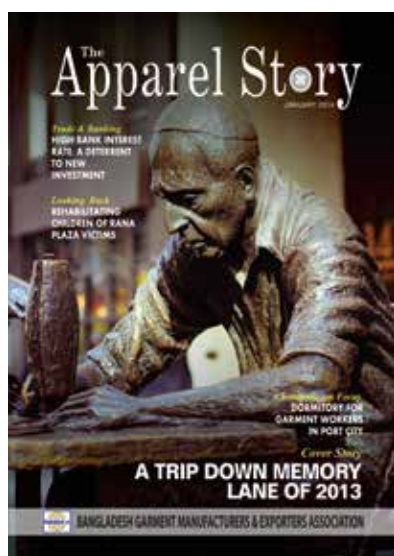
By Apparel Story Desk

A year has only 365 days and it does not sound like much when we are talking about significant entities that take years to build. Readymade garment is one industry that has witnessed a tremendous growth in Bangladesh in last three decades. And what a year can do to the biggest export earner of the country i.e. the apparel industry is quite extraordinary and phenomenon. Exactly two years back when the garment industry was trying to cope with a terrible fire incident in one of its factories, they did not know of the bigger iceberg that was waiting for them in their journey to success. Just after two months they were hit hard and were badly shaken with the worst collapse in the history of RMG industry. Everyone thought that the ship named Bangladesh Readymade Garment has sunk in the sea of despair and failure and it is never to be seen ever again. But that was year 2013 and that was two years back. The fateful year

was followed by a new year that brought the unexpected, the year that changed everything, the year that changed the whole scenario of the garment industry.

In 2013 the industry witnessed initiations of various activities right after the tragic incidents but those were just initiatives that lacked the certainty of implementation. It is never possible to be absolute about the results of any program unless and until it takes place in reality. Though we will always refer to 2013 as the phase where it all started, but in true terms in 2014 we saw the implementation of all the plans, of all the programs and activities that were promised right after the collapse. The 2014 can actually be termed the year when we turned around.

In all these incidents lots of assumptions were made as how RMG sector is waning off and how Rana Plaza incident brings the end of an era and how we will not have



enough buyers by the end of year for successful sustainability of this sector. But statistics and hard facts do not conform to these assumptions. The RMG industry managed to achieve an even growth in the year of 2014.

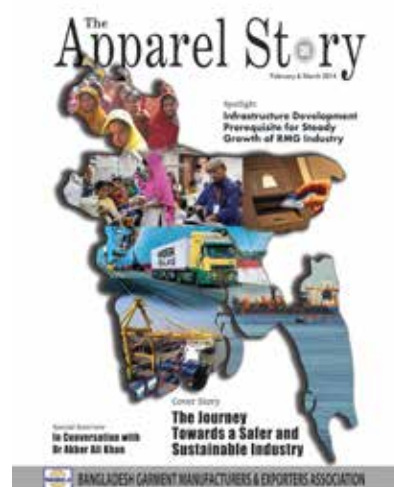
When the US suspended Bangladesh's GSP eligibility on the plea of poor workplace safety and workers' right and Bangladesh was given the Action Plan, the major stipulation that Bangladesh had was to significantly improve the safety and security of workers and their workplaces. Since then efforts have been made by the Bangladeshi side to make the improvement. Relentless efforts were being made to ensure building and fire safety, and workers' rights. Initiatives like National Action Plan, Accord and Alliance have been at work since the very beginning to ensure safety.

In 2014 Accord and Alliance completed their first rounds of inspection and less than 1.5% factories of all the factories inspected were found to be unsafe and were closed down for relocation. In addition to NAP, whose inspection is still ongoing, a total of 2325 factories have been inspected out of 3500 plus factories. Most were found safe to be operating under normal condition and were given Corrective Action Plans (CAP) for minor remediation to be implemented for ensuring 100% safety of the factories and their workers.

The factories are finally out in the

open after all the inspections, with the CAPs in their hands. Some with minor remediation are already undergoing changes but the ones with major remediation or complete relocation are still waiting for low-cost funds to be available for them to start implementing their CAPs. In spite of the industry's strong determination and honest effort, the proper remediation of Bangladesh garment industry will not be possible without adequate fund provided for it. Since ensuring safety is the ultimate goal, the issue of financing is still a vital factor in carrying out the remediation plan. So the Accord and Alliance members along with international development partners should provide momentum to the remediation soon by delivering to the factories the required fund promised.

To ensure safety, there is no alternative but to install fire safety equipment at garment factories to reduce the risk of fire accident as the raw materials used in this industry is very much fire-prone. But setting up fire equipment requires a huge amount of money as they are very costly due to high duty on their import. RMG factory owners find it difficult to bear such high cost of installing safety materials especially at this time of over-bearing cost and expenditure. So BGMEA was pretty vocal about this extra burden of a cost and pleaded to the government to address these issues. Even last year's earlier *Apparel Story* publications had article on BGMEA's expectations from the budget. Consideration was given to such emphasis and so in the last budget of 2014, the import of fire door, sprinkler system and emergency exit lights has been made tax free as withdrawal of tax on these safety items was a strong demand of private sector entrepreneurs. The 20% tax rebate for factory relocation from Dhaka and its surrounding areas too will increase investment and employment. The government also reduced source tax from five percent to three percent, the decision which was applauded by the BGMEA as the reduction in source tax will be

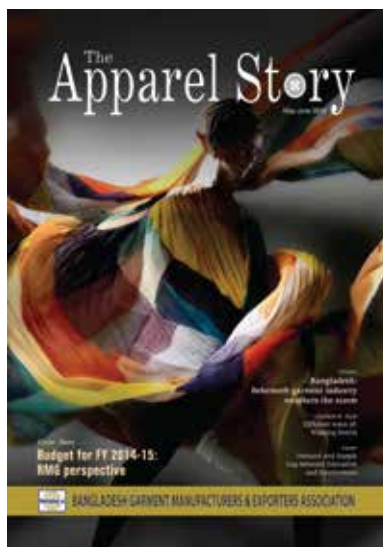
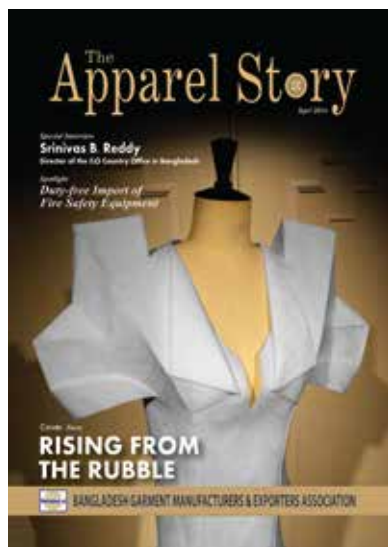


instrumental in increasing the exports of RMG products.

In the last year the RMG industry has made significant progress in terms of exploring new markets like Russia, South Africa, Brazil, Turkey etc. The percentage of exports to the non-traditional market has increased to 14.71% in the last fiscal year of 2013-14 and the growth of export to non-traditional market has been 21.15% in the fiscal year of 2013-14. Though not a non-traditional market, but the value of RMG export to Canada has crossed one billion in the 2013-14 fiscal. About ninety-one percent of goods exported to Canada from Bangladesh are apparel items. This historic landmark of one billion worth

garment export to Canada signifies that with the spirit the Canadian government and the people of Canada granted the LDCs the duty-free access to their market has meaningfully contributed to the development of the latter, particularly Bangladesh.

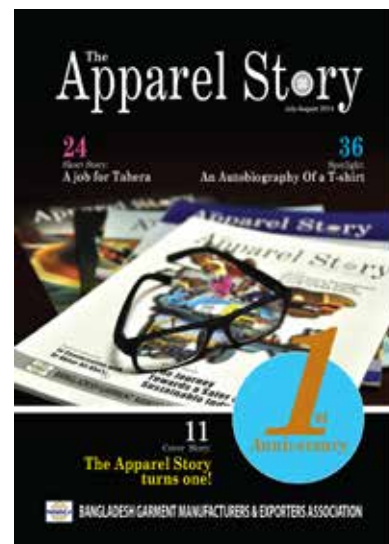
Standing in a crucial point like this, the significance of environmental sustainability cannot be overlooked while ensuring sustainable development in the long run. Keeping this in mind both the government and industry leaders has integrated the issue of sustainability in their policy decisions with utmost priority. We have exemplary green factories with LEED certification like Vintage Denim Studio and other good examples of green factories will be Classic Fashion Concept Ltd, Topaz Dress Shirt Ltd, Dekko Garments Ltd, Meghna Knit Composite Ltd etc. Also in the last year a total of 87 LEED certified factories were given permission and are now under construction from which 75 factories are for RMG and textile. Among all the progress that has been made, there were some setbacks too. Like the unrest of the Tuba Garment workers when they did not get their due payments on time and protested relentlessly in front of BGMEA. The owner was in custody at that period of time and the time also coincided with the Eid-ul-Fitr holidays so the salary payment was getting long overdue. It did not help when the owner came out of jail and still could not



accumulate fund to pay, that is when BGMEA on its own initiative paid the wage, which amounted to Tk 3,27,62,875 (approximately USD \$ 4,23,584) to a total of 1475 workers.

As it is seen that there is no shortage of problems and issues that keep on hitting the industry but most of those are external problems. A major internal problem that the manufacturers will soon face is the concern regarding competitiveness in terms of price. The current trend of decreasing apparel price and increasing competition among the manufacturing countries has raised the competitiveness issue of the Bangladesh RMG industry as a top priority topic. In case productivity enhancement is one strategic tool that can act as the savior. Rather than looking at productivity as an issue, it should be seen as an opportunity to bridge the gap between problems and potentials. To make better use of that opportunity, BGMEA is focused and determined to work more inclusively regarding productivity enhancement. Hence it has launched their own productivity cell, which will provide support to member factories in enhancing their efficiency and capability.

Also as a part of its endeavor to move the apparel industry forward, BGMEA has partnered with CBI (Centre for the Promotion of Imports from developing countries,) an agency of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands.



They have joined hands to improve the value chain of the Bangladeshi apparel sector. The program will enhance the compliance level of Bangladeshi apparel products and upgrade them to higher value channel segments through the addition of competences and through knowledge dissemination. It will also safeguard the country's exports, boost its image abroad and underscore the future in the industry.

2014 started with the uncertainty of growth and sustainability of the \$25 billion export market of RMG industry. However, the industry ended the year with a boom, securing the industry's place at the top tier of all apparel exporting countries and boosting the image of the industry and the country as a whole



Among other initiatives, one noble action taken by BGMEA is their on-going project of constructing a 100-bed non-profit general hospital in Mirpur, Dhaka. Some fund is required to finish the construction of the hospital and there have been few significant donors. Once the construction of the hospital is completed, it will provide all kinds of outdoor and indoor health care facilities. This aims to help the workers to avoid the hassle of

public hospitals and exorbitant charges of private clinics.

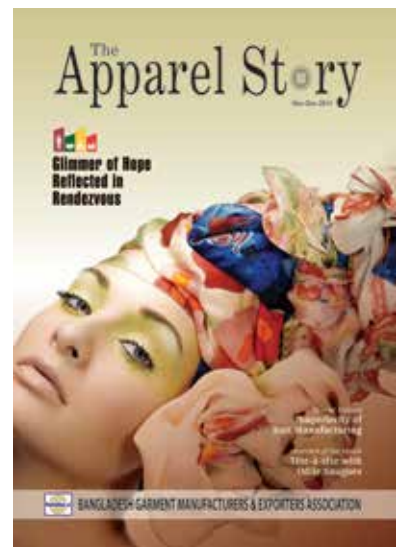
2014 started with the uncertainty of growth and sustainability of the \$25 billion export market of RMG industry. However, the industry ended the year with a boom, securing the industry's place at the top tier of all apparel exporting countries and boosting the image of the industry and the country as a whole. The recent challenges faced by the industry relating to workplace safety issues have raised global concerns. A platform to discuss and share ideas was needed to shape a more sustainable and responsible global supply chain. Hence BGMEA, in the liberating month of December and with the spirit of economic freedom, organized the first-ever Dhaka Apparel Summit. The objective was to open and further such dialogue to frame a sustainable road map on building responsible supply chains in the textile and garment sector that can contribute to its sustainable development and inclusive growth of the economy. A book will soon be prepared incorporating all the discussions, recommendations, and suggestions that came out in the sessions of the Dhaka Apparel Summit. This book will act as the road map to achieving the vision of \$50 billion of RMG export in 2021 in a sustainable way.

Bangladesh has set the vision of reaching US\$50 billion of RMG export by 2021. To realize the vision, the BGMEA has established the Centre of Excellency for Bangladesh Apparel Industry (CEBAI) in association with ILO with financing partners being H&M and Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA). The Prime Minister inaugurated the project simultaneously with the opening of the Dhaka Apparel Summit on December 7 at Bangabandhu International Conference Center.

The CEBAI has been set up to ensure development of all sorts of skills that are required in the RMG sector. It will also deliver training and certification for instructors, trainers and assessors. Besides, the center will develop a research

strategy for the RMG sector on core areas of enabling environment for trade-barriers, cross-border investment, technology transfer, value-added products, policy support and sustainability. CEBAI can play a significant role in turning the potential and capacity of the large population into the power through a set of quality skills, which can contribute to the social and economic development in contemporary Bangladesh.

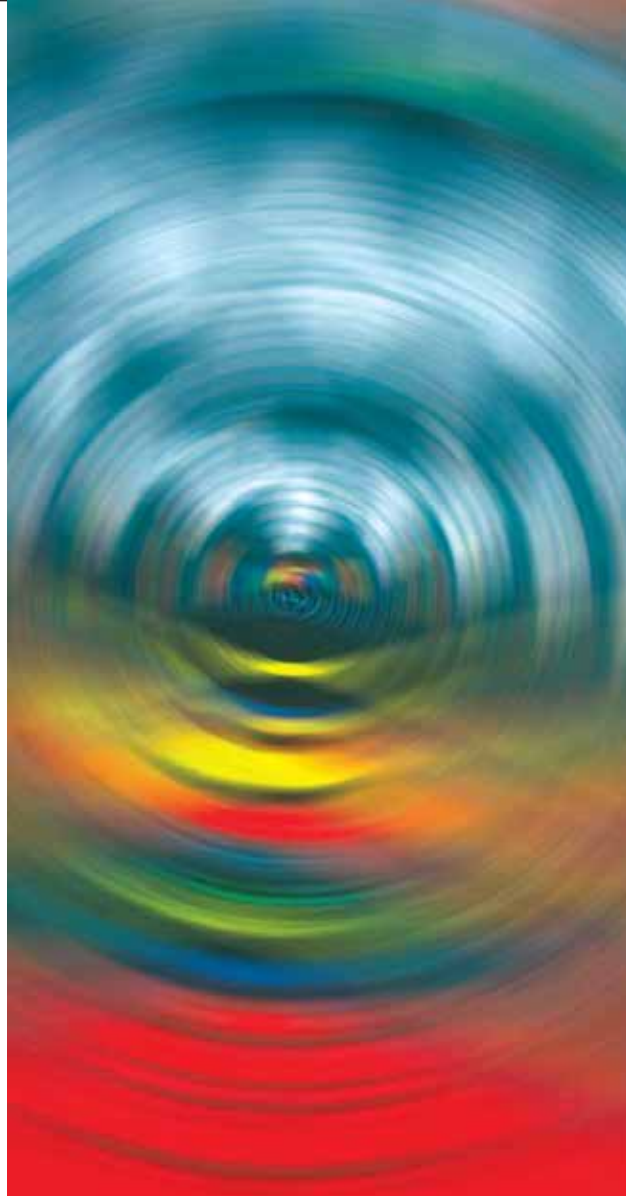
All the positive and negative incidents that make the RMG industry, signifies that the sector has a lot of potentials and resilience and it was evident even in the period of hardship. This sector has such strong foundations that a mishap or two cannot take the glory away. No one can deny



the significant amount of competitiveness that the buyers have enjoyed all these years by importing from Bangladesh. And the mishaps that happened then were just a phase and will see the end of it soon.

2014 was a year full of results; results that showed that Bangladesh RMG industry is strong and can overcome every possible hurdle that there is in the future. Though this is just the beginning but the garment industry of Bangladesh will have a totally different picture after four to five years from now and everyone will marvel at all the recognition that the industry will achieve for its resilience and hard work in face of adversity.

cement
fertilizer
apparel
airlines
navigation
power generation



steel
paper
textile
spinning
home textile
shares & securities

*H.G Aviation Ltd. (Regent Air)_ Habib Steels Ltd._ Diamond Cement Ltd._ Regent Power Ltd._
Regent Fabrics Ltd._ Regent Weaving Ltd._ Regent Textile Mills Ltd._ Regent Spinning Mills Ltd._
Regent Energy and Power Ltd._ Maam Textile Mills Ltd._ Legacy Fashion Ltd._ Siam's Superior
Ltd._ Valiant Garments Ltd._ Anowara Fashion Ltd._ Anowara Apparels Ltd._ Anowara Paper
Mills Ltd._ Valiant Fashion Wear Ltd._ Mudys Navigation Ltd._ MTS Re-rolling Mills Ltd._ Habib
Shares & Securities Ltd._ Bangladesh Fertilizer & Agro Chemicals Ltd.*

serving the nation to build the future



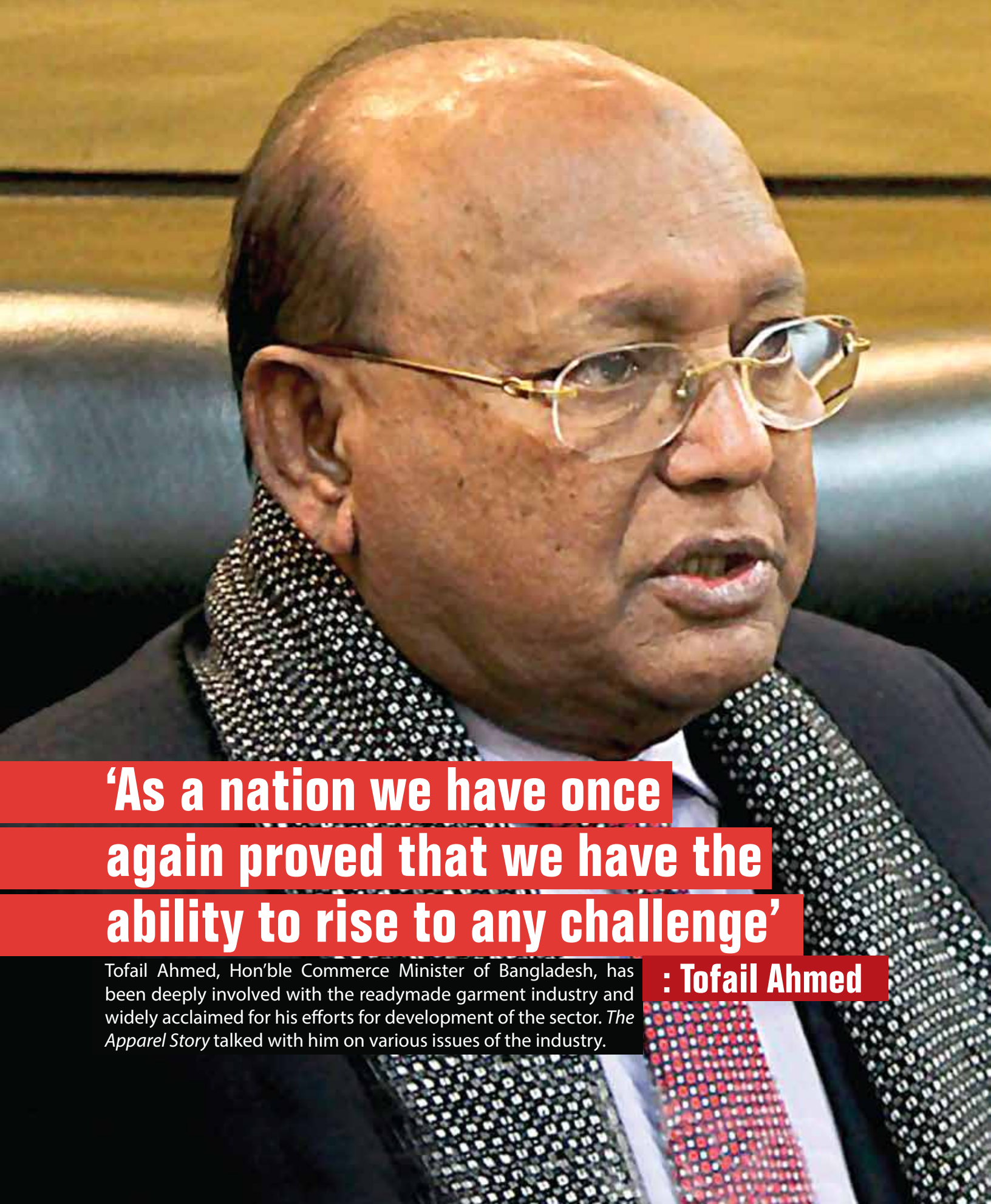
Corporate Office

HG Tower, 1182 Jubilee Road, Chittagong-4000, Bangladesh. Phone : 88-031-2868204-7, 2868841-3 Fax : 88-031-2868208 Email : dcl.hsl@regenttex.com

Dhaka Office

Rangs Arcade (2nd Floor) 153/1 /A, Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan-2, Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh. Phone : 880-2-9883744 Fax : 880-2-8826437 E-mail : regent@citechco.net

www.habibgroupbd.com



‘As a nation we have once again proved that we have the ability to rise to any challenge’

Tofail Ahmed, Hon'ble Commerce Minister of Bangladesh, has been deeply involved with the readymade garment industry and widely acclaimed for his efforts for development of the sector. *The Apparel Story* talked with him on various issues of the industry.

: Tofail Ahmed

The present government has set a vision to turn Bangladesh into a middle-income country by 2021. How much will the RMG sector contribute to realizing the Vision-2021?

Tofail Ahmed: The year 2021 is very special for the people of Bangladesh as it will mark the golden jubilee of our independence that we achieved in 1971 through nine-month long War of Liberation. The year is also important for us as we have envisioned Bangladesh becoming a middle-income country by 2021, with the expectation that our people will be adequately fed, clothed and housed, and have access to health care. However, our vision is not castle in the air; the macroeconomic stability, 6 percent annual average GDP growth, robust performance of remittance and export, strong foreign currency reserve, and remarkable social and human development over the past decade have provided impetus to set the objective of transforming Bangladesh from a low-income economy to the first stages of a middle-income economy.

The nation's future depends on this industry. It has now become the main driver of our steady economic growth. What is more encouraging is that a glittering future is waiting for the readymade garment industry of Bangladesh. I believe the sector will play a crucial role in turning our beloved country by alleviating poverty through employment generation and empowering women.

After the tragic Rana Plaza incident our garment industry was portrayed in such way that people at home and abroad started thinking that almost all garment factories in Bangladesh were vulnerable and unsafe for workers. But inspection reports of Accord and Alliance tell a totally different story. How do you see this?

Tofail Ahmed: It is true that the tragic accident in 2013 sent a negative message about the apparel industry of Bangladesh to the world community. It is also true and at the same time unfortunate that some exaggerated reports about the garment industry -- that almost all

garment factories in Bangladesh were vulnerable and unsafe for workers -- have temporarily tarnished our image locally and internationally. However, after the shocking experience from two tragic incidents in the RMG industry massive initiatives -- the Accord, the Alliance and the National Action Plan (NAP) -- have been undertaken to improve workplace safety in the garment factories. To date about 2200 factories have undergone building, fire and electrical safety inspections, of which over 98% factories are found fit to carry on operations while implementing corrective action plans (CAP). Inspection reports and CAPs are made public through websites as a measure of transparency. The capacity of safety-related government agencies has been enhanced through recruitment of additional inspectors. Our RMG industry is really experiencing a positive, visible change because of the ongoing reforms.

As a nation we have once again proved that we have the ability to rise to any challenge, be it natural or manmade. Given the huge size of our apparel industry, ensuring worker safety in garment factories was really mountainous challenge for the sector. However, Bangladesh took up the challenge and made significant progress in the areas of safety standard, including fire, electrical and structural safety, in garment factories.

Recently Dhaka Apparel Summit was held where Bangladesh has set a vision to take the export earnings from the RMG industry to \$50 billion by 2021. How much are you optimistic about the vision?

Tofail Ahmed: I really appreciate that BGMEA organized the Dhaka Apparel Summit at a crucial time when our RMG industry is at crossroads -- challenges on one side and immense potentials for impressive growth on the other side. Given the huge opportunities lying ahead us and with our 35-year experience in the sector, entrepreneurial skills, huge workforce, and government policy support, I do believe we will be able

to take Bangladesh's export earnings from RMG industry to \$50 billion by 2021 when the country will celebrate her 50th anniversary.

The speakers at the summit opined that developing infrastructure of the country is a prerequisite to achieving the vision of reaching \$50 billion of RMG exports by 2021. How will the government address this issue?

Tofail Ahmed: Our RMG industry is expanding rapidly and so does the need for adequate infrastructure. We have placed utmost importance to connectivity as it is a prerequisite to running any business, and RMG industry is no exception. The government has taken a number of initiatives to improve transportation systems in order to facilitate timely delivery of garment products. The Dhaka-Chittagong highway is being upgraded from 2 lanes to 4 lanes, and the project will be complete very soon. Besides, the government has several initiatives to improve power situation and we have already increased the production capacity to about 11 thousand MW from 3200 MW in 2008.

The apparel industry is highly competitive. What steps the government has taken and will take to retain the competitive edge of the RMG industry of Bangladesh?

Tofail Ahmed: Given the importance of RMG industry to our economy, the government has a number of steps for the development of the sector. Our government has reduced source tax from 0.80% to 0.30%; made import duty zero on fire and safety equipment and pre-fabricated materials for the RMG sector. Besides, the government has taken various steps to expand the market for exports. The government is providing incentive on exploring new market for our RMG products. The government will continue to provide its all-out support to the RMG industry for its development.

Thank you very much for your valuable time.

Tofail Ahmed: You are welcome.

texprocess

Leading International Trade Fair for
Processing Textile and Flexible Materials

**Full power for
the clothing industry.
4 – 7 May 2015 in Frankfurt am Main.**

Networking

Innovations

Machinery

Innovative Apparel Show

www.texprocess.com

Industry forum

Global player

Leading trade fair

Technologies

IT solutions

Sourcing

Equipment

Future

Trade fair duo

info@bangladesh.messefrankfurt.com
Tel. +92 21 35 88 36 71

powered by:



Garment and Leather
Technology

in parallel with:

techtexsil



messe frankfurt

BUFT forging bright future

By Tamanna Mahin



Bangladesh has earned itself a good name in the world as a readymade garment (RMG) manufacturer. The RMG has become the biggest export earner for the country and also directly created jobs for 4.4 million people, among which more than 80% is women. The industry has empowered the once poverty-ridden women of the country and given them a chance for a better life.

The emergence of the RMG industry has also created a demand for a specialized form of education. Factory owners wanted merchandisers who knew their jobs, engineers who could run the machines most competently and designers who could come up with innovative ideas.

To cater to this need, BMGEA Institute of Fashion and Technology (BIFT) was formed with the help of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) in 1999. In about a decade BIFT has earned a good name as one of the best institutions which has dedicated itself to provide quality education in fashion and technology. On March 14 of 2012, with accordance of the University Grants Commission Bangladesh, BIFT started its journey as a full-fledged university under the name 'BGMEA University of Fashion and Technology (BUFT)'.

Initially the prime objective of establishing this university was to meet the growing demand of the



manpower relating to apparel industry by upgrading the levels of skills, expertise and technology of our available human resource, said Reaz Bin Mahmood, Vice President (Finance) of BGMEA and also a Member of the Board of Trustees at BUFT. "BGMEA visualized the need for a world-class education institution that will deliver quality training and educational services to produce graduates and qualified practitioners. This in turn will help fill the void of skilled manpower that exists in the industry. BUFT started its first academic program in September 2012. The beginning of BUFT was a historical landmark for the RMG sector of Bangladesh that help us compete with global competitors and increase our market share", added Reaz Bin Mahmood.

"Due to lack of skilled human resource at mid-level management, we have to hire a large number of professionals from foreign countries. Here BUFT can play a significant role in reducing dependence on the foreigners by grooming up its students to serve the garment industry of the country", he added.

BUFT's Mission and Vision:

BUFT will establish itself as a 'Center of Excellence' to produce technically competent human resources for the RMG, apparel and allied sectors at home and abroad emphasizing on innovation and creativity. The mission of BUFT is to establish itself as an international standard 'State of Art' Institution for education, training, research and development to produce highly qualified, dynamic, versatile, creative and skilled human resources for fashion and design, apparel and textile technology and allied industries at home and abroad. Currently BUFT is offering the following programs:

Post Graduate Program:

MBA in Apparel Merchandising
Masters in Fashion Designing

Undergraduate Programs:

1. B.Sc in Apparel Merchandising
2. B.Sc in Knitwear Manufacture & Technology
3. B.Sc in Fashion Design & Technology
4. B.Sc in Textile Engineering
5. B.Sc in Textile Management
6. Bachelors in Business Administration

Diploma Programs:

1. Diploma in Apparel Merchandising (Woven, Knitwear & Sweater)
2. Diploma in Apparel Manufacture and Technology
3. Diploma in Apparel Engineering and Production Planning

Certificate Courses:

1. Certificate in Knitwear Merchandising
2. Certificate in Woven Garment Merchandising
3. Certificate in Sweater Merchandising
4. i) Short Course on Computer Aided Pattern Cutting CAD- I
ii) Short Course of Computer Aided Pattern Grading and Marker Making CAD-II

At present BUFT is located at Uttara Model Town of Dhaka with a good communication network. It occupies 72,000sqft of floor space at its current location. "BUFT is going to move into its permanent premises at Dhaur, Uttara by the end of 2016 and construction is almost complete", said Dr. Syed Masud Hossain, the Vice Chancellor of BUFT. "Once completed, the campus will provide 378,560sqft of floor space for use in its 10-storey building with state-of-the-art learning facilities", the VC added.

BUFT has overseas collaboration with many institutes across the world. National Institute of Fashion & Technology, India; Technical University of Liberec, Czech Republic; London College of Fashion, London; Niederrhein University, Germany and Hanseo University, South Korea are a few of BUFT's international collaborators. Reaz Bin Mahmood informed the Apparel Story that BUFT with the help of UNIDO and LCF has created a 'Center for Export & Product Development (CEPD)' at its premises to provide education on exports and other related matters.

Dan W. Mozena, the Former Ambassador of the United States to Bangladesh, once commented that in the near future Bangladesh would secure the first position in world apparel export and BUFT would have major role to play in innovating new design and promote Brand Bangladesh in the world market.

Garment entrepreneurs believe that the university has a lot to deliver for the RMG industry, especially in the area of forward linkage. The visionaries of the university are trying their best to enrich the student pool of BUFT so that they can create the best employee pool in the middle management of the garment factories. Initially, BUFT was funded by BGMEA. However, over the years they have repaid the initial capital that BGMEA invested and the profits they have made during this time is now being ploughed back into the improvement of the university.

Regardless of the hardships that BUFT faced over the years it has withstand the harshness of the bad weather. It has dedicated itself to serve the apparel industry of Bangladesh and managed to give the industry some very talented graduates. BUFT has maintained international affiliations with many well-known universities of the world and every year they send their meritorious students and teachers



there so they can gather further knowledge and experience. This year BUFT is sending seven students to Hanseo University in South Korea on an exchange of students program. Six of them are undergraduate students who completed two years at BUFT and will be completing the rest of their academic program there and the other one is a female BUFT graduate who will be enrolling in the Masters program at Hanseo. BUFT tries to

provide their students with multiple opportunity exposures that will help the students to prepare themselves for the massive RMG industry.

BUFT is thriving with talents as the world's second largest RMG industry cannot wait to take pleasure in the cream of the crop. The university is trying their heart and soul to provide our biggest export industry with the best quality graduates and we look forward to BUFT's success.



TEXWORLD

ISTANBUL

April 7 - 9, 2015
Istanbul, Turkey

Istanbul Lutfi Kırdar International Convention and Exhibition Center

The Purchasing Point for Fashion Fabrics and Accessories

For more information
info@bangladesh.messefrankfurt.com
www.texworld.com.tr

THIS FAIR IS ORGANIZED WITH THE AUDIT
OF TOBB (THE UNION OF CHAMBERS AND
COMMODITY EXCHANGES OF TURKEY)
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW NO.5174



messe frankfurt

A close-up portrait of Prof. Amartya Sen, an elderly man with grey hair and glasses, smiling slightly. He is wearing a light blue shirt and a patterned jacket. The background is dark and out of focus.

In conversation *with*

**Bangladesh
has shown how it
is possible to educate
and empower women**

: Prof. Amartya Sen

The renowned scholar, who has authored many books on social injustice and its interrelation with economy, said Bangladesh has shown how it is possible to educate and empower women. “It was not in Bangladesh before 1971, it is absolutely Bangladesh's success”

Md. Shahidullah Azim, Vice President of BGMEA and also Editor of The Apparel Story, is seen briefing Nobel Laureate Prof. Amartya Sen on the BGMEA activities for economic development and women empowerment in Bangladesh. He also handed over copies of The Apparel Story to Prof. Sen during their meeting.



Nobel Laureate Prof. Amartya Sen, while talking with The Apparel Story, lauded the contribution of the readymade garment industry to the women empowerment in Bangladesh.

Mentioning that around 80% of the total workers of the sector are women, he said the industry has empowered a large number of women in the country by creating employment for them.

The renowned scholar, who has authored many books on social injustice and its interrelation with economy, said Bangladesh has shown how it is possible to educate and empower women. “It was not in Bangladesh before 1971, it is absolutely Bangladesh's success,” he said.

Amartya Sen has had words of praise for Bangladesh. Referring to Bangladesh's success in women's economic and social development, he said this is an indicator of Bangladesh's better performance than India's despite the latter's faster economic growth.

He said in 1990 per capita GDP of India was 50 percent higher than Bangladesh, now it is 100 percent. Yet, Bangladesh's social indicators such as gender equity, women's empowerment, mortality rate, life expectancy, immunization etc are remarkably better than India.

“India can learn from Bangladesh on its success in gender equity,” Prof. Sen said. “In 1990, life expectancy was three years higher in India than Bangladesh. Now it is just reversed,” he added.

Prof. Amartya Sen advocated development with a strong human content and democracy with liberty and free discourse. He said economic growth and human development are intertwined. Economic progress makes resource available for human development based on quantum and qualitative leaps in education and health sectors.

He said economic development and progress in human development must complement each other to help reach the fruit of development to under as well as less privileged

segments of the society. And to facilitate human development, the state needs to play a critical role in ensuring education and health service to the people.

“No country in the world was successful in ensuring universal education and health services through private sector; it is the basic function of the state,” said Prof. Sen who teaches economics and philosophy at Harvard University.

Drawing examples of India's growth story, he also said that India's per capita GDP doubled over the last three decades compared to that of Bangladesh, while the life expectancy in Bangladesh is now three years more than that of India.

Amartya Sen is also of the view that the pace of economic development could not be sustained in longer term if there was no improvement in human development indicators.

“How can one expect continuous higher growth with a big chunk of the population remaining uneducated and ill-healthy workforce?” he said.

Ever wondered what Spring is all about? Well look around you and cherish the weather. It will not last long. Spring is called the king of seasons. It is the best, the loveliest and the most charming of all seasons. In the cycle of seasons the spring occupies an exalted position. It is rich in color, beauty, music and fragrance. With the advent of spring, Nature puts on a gay and lively appearance. Every object of Nature becomes fresh. Trees put forth new leaves. Flowers bloom forth in thousands. The fine display of colors they present is especially fascinating. And this year that is what it is all about. Colorful, vibrant and bright is this season. Don't fret! Go out there and pick up a loud color this Spring.





It's the beautiful season of love. Boys and girls don't be afraid to pick up the colorful printed materials this year. Floral prints are very chic this year.



Colors of *Spring!*

By Tamanna Mahin





The men will look gorgeous this season clad in colorful vibrant shirts and light colored bottoms. Don't be afraid to experiment. Knee length shorts in khaki are very hip this season too. Colors can be combined in both casual and formal wear. It is still too early to put on the swim wear and sun bathe but it will be warm enough to show off some calves.



Women will be dressed in shades in Spring. Colors will gradually go from light to dark. Shades will transform in vertical or horizontal pattern. Floral patterns are also famous in women. Flowers represent the blooms that we see all around us in spring. And it is the freshness and welcoming of spring the designers portrayed through the flowers in their design.

Truly a Denim Expert

By Omar Gias



Denim Expert Limited started its journey in 1999 with a team of only four people and grew up from a buying house to a large apparel production unit within period of only a decade. Specialized in denim bottoms from basic 5-pockets to boutique collections, the factory located at Karnaphuli EPZ, Chittagong, works mainly with Europe-based buyers, and have a production facility for its own brand 'blueXonly' which has a strong foothold in Europe. While in Bangladesh garment makers usually manufacture the items with designs supplied by the international retailers, the Denim Expert does not depend on the designs provided. Sixty percent of his products are sold under his own brand name, blueXonly, in different boutiques in the Netherlands, Belgium, Hungary and Italy.

The remaining 40 percent of the products are sold to different European retailers like Primark, Tesco, New Yorker etc.

Denim Expert currently produces 12,000 pieces of trousers a day, with a workforce of nearly 2,000. While asked about the secret of this high productivity, Md. Mostafiz Uddin, Managing Director of Denim Expert Ltd, said that out of the box thinking, commitment to teamwork and passion to beat the set standards is their keys to achieving the higher productivity. "To continuously improve, our technical team -- beginning at the development stage -- thinks of production-friendly methods that incorporate the latest design trends. Our technical team is always thirsty to get new targets to beat. 'The sky has no limit' and 'Believe you can' are the two slogans that have brought us to our current productivity. I am proud of my team: they want to develop Denim Expert Ltd as a model factory by the end of 2015 in terms of productivity in Bangladesh and as the most productive factory in Southern Asia for jeans by 2016", Md. Mostafiz Uddin added.

The average age of Denim Expert staff is just 26 years, with an average experience of five years. They are young and hungry for knowledge and eager to break new ground. With passion and dedication, the team dreams of achieving a high level of expertise. The dedication of the employees of the Denim Expert Ltd is something tangible at every inch on the floors as the people from workers to managers get their management by their side at times of their sorrow and joy alike. To cite one example, the CEO and Managing Director of the company donated blood to his ailing workers five times is the telltale evidence of the fact that all inside the Denim Expert Ltd work like a family. Eco-conscious initiatives are nothing new to Denim Expert, but this year its development team will take its green activity to blue (or indigo rather, the colour of denim) -- all manufactured with minimal water waste and low energy consumption. Md. Mohiuddin Rubel, a Director of Denim Expert Limited and also the younger brother of Md. Mostafiz Uddin informed The Apparel Story that Denim Expert Ltd recycles 61 cubic metres of water from its dyeing and the washing plants per hour and reuses the water for various purposes. They use the recycled water for fish farming in a pond situated

within the factory compound. The company uses rain water for 90 days a year as it has a large water reservoir with a capacity of 32 million gallons; the stored water is used for dyeing and washing of the denim products. The steam from the boilers is also reused for different purposes. The Accord, a European platform of 189 retailers and brands for the inspection of garment factories in Bangladesh, ranked the building of Denim Expert Ltd as a green structure upon inspecting its building.

The “Made in Bangladesh” tag has brought glory for Bangladesh, making it a prestigious brand across the globe. Bangladesh, which was once termed by cynics a “bottomless basket”, has now become a “basket full of wonders.” The country with its limited resources has maintained 6% annual average GDP growth rate and has brought about remarkable social and human development. “The ready-made garments industry is the backbone of our economy and a catalyst for the development of our country. We take pride in the sector that has been fetching billions of dollars in export earnings and created jobs for millions of people in the country”, said the Managing Director of Denim Expert Ltd. However, he thinks that Bangladesh’s share in the global \$60 billion denim market is still insignificant and the country has ample scope to earn more from the export of denim garment products. To establish Bangladesh as one of the largest denim manufacturers in the



(From right to left) Md. Mostafiz Uddin, Managing Director, and Md. Mohiuddin Rubel, Director of Denim Expert Ltd.

world, Denim Expert took an initiative to host the country’s first international exhibition of denim products in March 2014. With the positive response from retailers, the second edition of the show was arranged in November 2014 in Dhaka. Companies from Germany, the US, Italy, the Netherlands, Turkey, Japan, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Brazil and Thailand participated in the expo. Mostafiz Uddin wishes to organize Bangladesh Denim Expo two times in a year; this year the first one is going to be held on May 11-12.

“To take our denim export to the next level, we have to keep in mind the future. We have a strong focus on

education and training for young people. To build a future, we must transfer knowledge internally to a new generation of designers, merchandisers, buyers, production technicians and entrepreneurs in the Bangladesh denim industry”, said Md. Mostafiz Uddin. He thinks that the scarcity of local talent and expertise in the denim world is pushing Bangladesh back in the race. We have to develop a base where local young brains are nurtured so that they can fulfill the demands of global talent in this industry. That’s why any surplus fund generated from Bangladesh Denim Expo will be donated by Denim Expert to a seed fund for a denim university in Bangladesh.





The proverb 'united we stand' was once again proved in the Dhaka Apparel Summit held on December 7-8, 2014. In response to the invitation of BGMEA, global minds, an overwhelming number of academics, representatives of brands, policymakers and other stakeholders flew thousands miles to attend the summit and extend their support in framing a road map to building a sustainable readymade garment industry which has been making significant contribution to transforming lives of millions of people in Bangladesh. After returning to their native land they sent e-mails to BGMEA President to share their impression on Bangladesh and its apparel industry. We would like to share a few of them with our readers.



Dear Atiq,

I appreciate your greetings, but the thanks are ours for the wonderful hospitality you provided Tom and me during last weekend. The press of work has made it necessary to wait until this weekend for a full thank you.

The trip was a wonderful experience, teaching us a great deal about Bangladesh and the Garment Industry. I hope our presentation lit some fires under the players to begin to make the changes in relationships among the players, so that all working together can begin to move cooperatively toward the Goal the BGMEA has set for the country. It is attainable, and working in coordination, Bangladesh can become the leader among all the countries making garments in South East Asia.

We are also most appreciative of your generous hospitality, the provision of the aides and wheelchair which made it so much easier for me to navigate within the heavy schedule we set for ourselves.

I look forward to working together on this issue, when you return to Boston and perhaps over distance learning facilities. There is lots to do, and we are happy to help without the need to return to Dhaka. But the visit was memorable, and we thank you for opening our eyes to the remarkable story of the Bangladeshi garment industry.

Yours,

Arnold Zack

Professor, Harvard Law School, Boston



Dear Atiq,

During the Dhaka Apparel Summit, we toured the Vintage factory owned by ABA Group. We were blown away by the experience. Vintage is a LEED Platinum certified factory, a custom-built factory specifically designed to be in harmony with its surroundings and the environment. The factory was state-of-the-art, even equipped with a cutting edge effluence treatment system. But it well beyond that. The factory was also very open and full of natural light, surrounded by well-maintained walkways lined with ponds and beautiful greenery. And the workers not only seemed well-treated, but seemed very happy. The very gracious owner and factory manager discussed how they planned to replicate the success of Vintage in their other factories.

From what we saw during the tour, they are definitely on the right path to creating the future of what factories will be in Bangladesh.

Nate Herman

*Vice President of International Trade
American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA)*



Dear Atiq,

I wish you and all the parties in Bangladesh all the best in working together to assure workplace safety and continuously improving employment conditions and prosperity.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Kochan

*Professor,
Work and Employment Relations,
Sloan School of Management, MIT*



Dear Atiq,

I was so impressed with the summit. It was the best summit I have ever been to. You should be very proud of your efforts. You have definitely set the bar so high it will be nearly impossible for anyone in the future to top your accomplishment. Congratulations.

Sincerely

Thomas A. Nelson
VP Global Product Procurement

Hi Atiq,

I congratulate you on a highly successful event that helped focus global attention on an industry that is leaving behind a troubled past and emerging as a rejuvenated strong and determined force for the future. I am certain that the RMG sector will continue to grow and have confidence that your ambitious 50th anniversary targets are achievable. On behalf of the joint Ethical Trading Initiatives, I can assure you that we will continue to play our part in helping to build a safe, secure and sustainable environment where management and workers can together contribute to this effort.

With very best wishes to you and your dedicated team at BGMEA.



Debbie Coulter
*Head of Programmes
Ethical Trading Initiative*



Dear Atiq,

A heartfelt thank you and congratulations for hosting a successful and impressive Summit. Unfortunately I had to leave without saying a proper thank you and good bye, my apologies for that, the Summit really demonstrated your commitment to making "made in Bangladesh" a signal of quality and sustainability.

We do look forward to contributing our part in that respect, in collaboration with BGMEA as well as other organisations for the better of workers, the industry and thereby Bangladesh in general.

Best regards,

Per N. Bondevik
*Managing Director
Ethical Trading Initiative Norway (IEH)*

Dear BGMEA President,

Hope you've had a happy new year as well! And thanks again for the invitation to come to Bangladesh. Here are some impressions of my factory tour. If you would like me to elaborate further on any specific element of the visit, I would be happy to do that: I toured Impress Garments on December 9, 2014. I could tell it is a well-run factory whose management has devoted considerable attention to making safety upgrades and in general cares a great deal about the health and well-being of its workers. They also have devoted a lot of attention to increasing efficiency (for instance, they keep detailed records of each aspect of the production process) and are poised to make significant contributions to Bangladesh's goal of achieving \$50 billion in exports by 2021.

Best wishes,

Rachel Heath
Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Washington



Dear BGMEA President,

Thank you so much for including me and congratulations on a successful summit. I had many useful conversations and will be following the \$50b by 2021 plan very closely.

All the best,

Sarah Labowitz
*Co-director, Center for Business and Human Rights
NYU Stern School of Business*



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina unveiled the Bangladesh National Cricket Team's new World Cup jersey.

All for the TIGERS

By Apparel Story Desk



The Bangalees can be termed cricket fanatic considering their emotion and love for cricket. The eyes of the cricket crazy nation are now glued to TV sets as the ICC World Cup 2015 is being held in Australia and New Zealand. This is for the fifth time the Tigers are playing in the World Cup. But it is for the first time our players are fighting in the fields wearing the 'Made in Bangladesh' jerseys. Texweave, a member of BGMEA, has prepared the jerseys of Bangladesh Cricket Team for the ICC World Cup 2015.



As usual the Tigers' new jersey is blended with green and red -- two colors of our national flag. However, heritage, history and flag -- all these were merged to create the latest design of the jersey that tells the story of Bangladesh's independence, its glory and the courage of its people. The green color on the jersey symbolizes the lushness of Bangladesh's landscape, while the red is representative of the sun of sovereignty that rises over the country. The isosceles triangular planes in the jersey signifies the National Monument, thus, narrating the history of the martyrs who sacrificed their lives to liberate the country. Finally, the jersey also displays tiger paws and pneumatophores of the Sundarbans which symbolize the struggle and courage of the people of this delta and the aggressiveness that will motivate our players to play well and win.

Md. Ashiqur Rahman (Tuhin), the CEO and Managing Director of Texweave said that no compromise was made on the quality, and the sportswear is really comfortable for the cricketers. While asked what is special about the kit, he told The Apparel Story that apart from the fact that the jersey has been stitched with great quality, comfortable fabrics have been used in it that prevent the jersey from wrinkling or shrinking.

The Managing Director of Texweave also said that they tried to promote the world's largest mangrove forest, the Sundarbans, through the jersey. "Cricket has made us known to the world. So, by the means of cricket we want to make the Sundarbans popular in the world", he added.

In order to demonstrate support for Bangladeshi cricket team and depict the passionate involvement of our society with the game, Texweave also released a music video on local television and radio stations. Singers Moidul Islam Khan Shuvo, Shafi Mondol, Chandana Majumder, Jakia Sultana Tumpa, Adnan and Amjad Hossain have lent their voice in the music video titled Ora Aschee (They are coming), while the lyrics of the song were penned by Shuvo and Mehedi.

*Md. Ashiqur Rahman
(Tuhin), CEO and
Managing Director of
Texweave that
prepared the jerseys
for the Tigers' World
Cup mission.*



EXCELLENCE &
EXCEPTION
IS WHAT MAKES US



Open for All



For Reservation: 01755557944

Discount on family hour

between 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM.



LongBeach
SUITES | DHAKA

CEN 4 (G), Road-104, Gulshan-02, Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh. Tel: +88 09666773366
Hunting: +8801755660051, sales@longbeachsuitesbd.com, www.longbeachsuitesbd.com

Innovation for Value Addition



Apparel produced in environment-friendly way can add value to it since there is a huge demand for such products in the world market.

By Nasim Uddin

A

An interesting similarity exists between products and human beings; just as people go through infancy, childhood, adulthood and old age, so do products. A product passes through four stages in its life cycle -- Introduction Growth Maturity Decline. With the passage of time older products eventually become less popular, while the demand for new, more modern goods usually increases after they are introduced in the market. This is truer in the case of the apparel industry since consumers' taste and need and demand for the new change very rapidly. So how to make sure that businesses continue to grow?

The apparel industry is often characterized by short product life cycles and erratic consumer demand. In this era of fast fashion, a product has a very limited lifespan; that means after a certain period of time the demand for the product starts declining and so does the profit from selling it. So what a company has to do to cope with this challenge is either to go for new product development or to add value to the existing products. The key aspect of value addition is high price, uniqueness, attractiveness and focusing a business more closely on its targeted market segment. Value addition increases the value of the garment both by appearance and price and attracts customers to buy that particular garment.



*New design
in a product
may tempt
customers
to pay more
for it.*

The key benefits to a business of value addition include:

- Charging a higher price
- Creating a point of difference from the competition
- Focusing a business more closely on its target market segment

In a free market system, customers are generally prepared to consider paying more if they perceive they are getting more value for their money. Value addition is very crucial in tempting customers to part with their hard earned cash. Value addition also bears special importance to the countries like Bangladesh as they depend mainly on low-cost labour to remain competitive in the global apparel market. But one of the noticeable trends of the retail apparel chain over the few years has been the consistent decline in average retail prices and increase in the production cost mainly due to rise in labour wage. For example, in Bangladesh the minimum wage for garment workers have increased by 219% over the last, making a dent in the average profit margin. Besides, with time workers' wage is subject to rising. So for these countries, there is no alternative to value addition to survive and remain competitive in the market. Value addition:

- Satisfies customers' demand for the new, thus tempting them to pay more for the products they buy
- Increases the profit margin of a company, thus helping it survive and remain competitive in the market
- Enhances the capacity of the company to pay increased wage to its workers, thus helping them to lead a more standard life



How to add value to products:

Value addition means the enhancement a company gives its product before offering it to customers. It provides potential customers with a feature or add-on that gives it a greater sense of value. Value addition may come in a variety of forms like design development, adding extra features to product, cost optimization, production process upgradation, efficient technology inclusion etc.

Design development: Customer expectations are always sky high. They today have very little patience with products that are old. So, one of the best options to convince consumers to pay more is to design new products.

Extra add-ons to clothes: A completely new design of a product is both time consuming and requires sizable investment. So adding some extra features to an existing product can really add value to the product. For example, if a manufacturer adds new fabrics to normal jeans making it more comfortable to wear, a customer will be ready to pay more for the product.

Cost Optimization: A manufacturer can add value to his products through cost optimization. For example, if a factory introduces latest sewing or cutting machine that both reduces use of energy and number of workers, then production cost will be reduced, which will ultimately result in value addition to the product. Besides, cost can be optimized by running a machine efficiently. For instance, repairing cost of steam leakage is only BDT 9000 but it can save BDT 49,000 by stopping steam wastage. Moreover, it will reduce emission of carbon dioxide by 7.7 to 9.7 tons/year.

Use of Technology: Cost-effective technology can add value to products by reducing production cost. For instance AirDye, developed in California by Colorep, works with proprietary dyes that are heat-transferred from paper to fabric in a one-step process. This can save between seven and 75 gallons of water in the dyeing of a pound of fabric, save energy, and produces no harmful by-products. The technology uses 85 percent less energy than traditional dyeing methods.

New Trends: Fashion changes with time and so does trends. Apparel designers and manufacturers often read the pulse of customers while designing and making clothes. Here also lies the scope of value addition. For example, there is a growing trend towards buying eco-friendly garments among a section of consumers who care for the environment. These customers are ready to pay more for eco-friendly products.

These are a few of the ways to add value to apparel; there may be hundreds of them. But how to discover them? Here comes the necessity of research and innovation in the apparel industry. It is now globally accepted that in the ever-changing world innovation has become the key to successful and sustainable business.

This fact is more applicable to the readymade garment industry of Bangladesh when labour cost here is rising making a dent in its profit margin. Despite being the second largest apparel exporting country in the world, Bangladesh's share in global apparel market is only 5%, which is not so huge given the size of industry and its workforce. This is mainly because Bangladesh still produces and exports low-end products and profit from such basic products is also low. To cope up with rising labour cost and remain competitive in the global apparel market, Bangladesh needs to go for value addition to the existing garments and also to move up to more high-end, brand-focused and design-oriented products. When Bangladesh would move to high-end products, the need for value addition will still be there. And research and innovation is a must for value addition.



Zero Liquid Discharge: Options for Bangladesh Textile Industry

By Somnath Battacharjee & Ritu Bharadwaj

The textile sector is the backbone of Bangladesh's economy. However, the industry is faced with many challenges due to high resource (energy, water and chemical) footprint and its consequent environmental impact. Water usage by the textile industry in Bangladesh is estimated to be 1,500 million cubic meters, which is principally made of groundwater. Around 70% of this water consumption takes place in the wet processing of textiles, which involves washing, dyeing, and finishing of textiles. Besides high water footprint, the textile industry also faces the challenge of dealing with the problem of effluent discharge and the use of coagulants and chemicals for its treatment.

Realising the scale of these issues and the urgent need for addressing them, Bangladesh Government has recently issued the Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) Regulation for the textile sector. This poses a huge challenge for the industry, particularly for the small and medium sized units. The key to its successful implementation would be

a cautious and practical approach and view this as an opportunity to deal with the pressing environmental challenges in a sustainable manner.

Technological options for ZLD in Bangladesh textile sector

Implementing the ZLD mandate in Bangladesh is thwart with many challenges like; 1. Technical feasibility of various options, 2. Financial viability, 3. Practical implementation issues like lack of space in existing units to install effluent treatment plants, 4. Disposal of solid waste/ sludge that would be generated as a result etc. The Tirupur textile cluster in India, where zero discharge regulation has been under implementation for some time, have dealt with similar issues and undergone technology improvisation to deal with them. Learning's from Tirupur experience could be relevant for Bangladesh as it embarks on a challenging road to implement ZLD. Some recommendations based on India's experience are highlighted in this section:

Dealing with Operation and Management issues

In Bangladesh, the textile industry has largely emerged in clusters, where availability of space for setting up individual ETPs is an issue. Similarly there are issues with regard to economic viability of setting up and operating ETPs in tier 2 & 3 textile unit. To deal with these issues, Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) can be considered to cater to the needs of smaller textile units. Several units in a cluster can jointly install and operate the ETP and share the capital and operating cost. This will help in achieving economy of scale for the small scale factories. However a common problem with the running of CETP is collection of Operation and Maintenance charges from member units. Here textile Associations like BGMEA can have a role in enforcing discipline and providing support in working out a practical agreement that can be followed by the industry at large. Depending on the response of different stakeholders, the industry can also think of adopting



different models of public private partnerships for management of CETP. This could include Build Own Operate (BOO) or Build Own Operate and Transfer (BOOT) models, in which the industry/ government can share the investments in full or part for the CETP, including land and capital costs, while the operating partner can invest in full or part for the operation & maintenance costs, which are then be recovered through user charges.

Dealing with Technical issues

While the technology for ZLD treatment and wastewater recycling has more or less stabilized, there are still many issues with this technology and approach to management of wastes. The most important one being evaporation of RO rejects in thermal evaporators. In fact several ZLD CETPs have failed due the failure of these Evaporators. The major issues are: high costs involved in evaporation; technical limitations in evaporating mixed salts, which is typical for textile wastewaters due to problems in crystallization; corrosion and scaling of the evaporators resulting in reduced life and efficiency; and frequent interruptions and downtime affecting processing capacity. Besides these issues, another problem is with regard to contamination of mixed salt with other pollutants during the Evaporation process. These mixed salts are unfit for reuse in textile processing on account of a host of

reasons. They also create a serious storage and disposal issue because in many cases they cannot be disposed in landfills and require hazardous waste disposal facilities. Most CETPs particularly ZLD-CETPs can generate several hundred tons/ day of Hazardous solid waste, such as sludge and waste salt. Thus Bangladesh textile industry needs to shift from the approach of ZLD to Zero Waste Discharge. This can be adopted in two ways discussed as follows:

- i. 'Zero Waste Discharge' can be achieved by promoting ZLD technologies that does not result in waste salt and sludge that can cause disposal issues. This will involve technical interventions that can help in recovery and reuse of salts and chemicals from wastewater. This can have a number of benefit such as elimination of sludge generation, enhanced reuse of salt in the dyeing process, reduced demand for ground water supply, enhanced local ground water table, prevention of ground water contamination, improved local micro climate, and loss of ecology. This approach has been successfully tried out in Tirupur textile cluster in India, wherein Nano-Filtration (NF) assembly has been used for salt recovery from R.O. reject and the recovered salt is being reused for dyeing.
- ii. Another approach to achieving 'Zero Waste Discharge' could be

use of textile sludge in other industries. Textile sludge can be used in a number of productive ways, for substituting raw material and energy requirements, in other industries. Some Cement Plants in India have started using textile sludge in Kilns as alternative fuel. Aditya Birla Cement, Chittorgarh (Rajasthan, India) unit has been co-processing ETP sludge of about 1000 tonnes per month from textile mills located in Bhilwara Industrial Area. Bangladesh textile industry could tie up with local cement industry to promote the sludge as an alternate fuel in Cement manufacture. Another option for use of textile sludge in Bangladesh could be as raw material in brick manufacture. This will however require R&D in terms of waste characterisation of sludge to assess its suitability for making non-fired bricks.

Way Forward

This is a need for integration of environmental concerns in the development and growth of textile industry in Bangladesh. This can be made possible by implementation of zero discharge system, which not only takes care of the environmental pollution, but also increases the price competitiveness through effective utilization of natural resources and increases productivity. In this regard the best way for implementing zero discharge is waste minimization by recycle of water, reuse of salt/ chemicals in dyeing and making productive use of waste sludge. On one hand it can prevents pollution of the environment and, on the other, it promotes water conservation. Adoption of zero discharge will enable Bangladesh textile sector in getting access to wider international market, enhancing its export and increasing employment and growth opportunities. This would, however, require a practical and phased approach and concerted effort of the textile industry as well as the Government of Bangladesh in addressing the challenges in implementing ZLD in a holistic manner.

Somnath Battacharjee & Ritu Bharadwaj are Director, India Program, and Senior Program Manager, Institute for Industrial Productivity (IIP) respectively.



Threading the Readymade Garments and Exports Industry of Bangladesh





Need for Smooth Gas Supply to RMG Industry

By Musharrat Tarannum Baishakhi



Gas is a very important natural resource which meets around 73% of total demand for fuel in commercial sector in Bangladesh. The growing RMG industry also heavily depends on the natural resource since it is used as the prime source of energy in the sector. But at present shortage of natural gas has been affecting the RMG industry. New factories cannot be set up for lack of gas connection while production at running factories is greatly hampered due to low pressure of gas.

The ongoing shortage of natural gas has adverse impacts on RMG sector. There are 250-300 factories which are ready with all the equipment and machinery to operate in full swing. But due to lack of gas connection many factory owners are incurring huge losses in terms of productivity and export. Thus, in return, Bangladesh is getting deprived of a huge amount of foreign currency.

Production has slowed down in many garment factories due to low pressure of natural gas while new factories cannot go for production without gas connection, thus incur-

ring huge losses. Md. Faruk Hossain, Managing Director of Ripon Group, said, "I set up a dying factory in the year of 2009. My factory was well-equipped with the latest machinery. I had applied for the gas connection and after completing all the paper process I got approval from Titas Gas to get new gas connection. But very unfortunately, till now, I have not got the gas connection. So, I am unable to operate my dying section. Within these 4-5 years, machinery is damaged to a great extent. I had taken loan from bank to start the dying section, but still I am paying my loan from other businesses. Right now my company has annual turnover of more than BDT 100 crore. But if I would be able to operate the dying section, my business would grow up to BDT 400 crore per year. Although I have invested more than BDT 50 crore in the dying project, but it turned into a complete loss project. While I am incurring losses, the country is being deprived of revenue." Just like Faruk Hossain, there are almost three to four hundred factory owners who are



facing this gas crisis.

Apart from hampering production in the factories, gas crisis has become a bar to creating new employment in the country. New factories cannot be set up without gas connection. Faruk Hossain said, "If I could run the dying section, it would create employment for thousands of workers."

Readymade garment factories which are located in shared buildings and have defective conditions need to be relocated to safer buildings outside the capital. But the shifting is being delayed due to complexities arising from lack of gas connections. If any industrial unit is shifted or relocated, it will need a fresh gas connection. As a result, the garment factories, which are relocating from the city to the outskirts, are facing problems and their operation remains stalled due to shortage of gas supply.

State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Nasrul Hamid, said, "Suppose a factory is located in Narayanganj and wants to move to Gazipur. But we have to understand that gas pressure varies from areas to areas. Moreover, when a connection from an area is severed, it does not mean that it will increase gas pressure in other areas. There is already a huge demand for and load on gas in Gazipur where a large number of factories are situated. There lies the problem of providing new connection to the factories which want to relocate."

He also said, "We know we have shortage of gas. That is why we have

suspended giving new gas connection and transfer. Because until or unless gas utilization does not come to proper management, the effective use of gas cannot be possible. We are planning and working to bring gas supply under proper management and it is taking some time. But we have already decided that relocated factories which have applied for transferring gas with same pressure and same quantity will be provide with gas connections. We have already got the list."

Md. Shahidullah Azim, Vice President of BGMEA, said that the RMG should get priority in terms of getting new gas connections because this sector earns huge foreign currencies, which has direct impact on the country's economic growth.

The State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources also said, "It is true we have gas shortage. But we cannot stop the growth of our industry. All industries need gas, but basic industries, like RMG and textile should get priority in getting gas connection."

Since gas crisis cannot be dealt with overnight, the ministries and departments concerned need to prepare different short, medium and long-term plans to sort out this problem. Given the dominance of the RMG industry on the economy of Bangladesh, the sector deserves priority in getting gas connection. Providing gas connection to the relocated factories will facilitate the transformation of the RMG industry.

Apart from hampering production in the factories, gas crisis has become a bar to creating new employment in the country. New factories cannot be set up without gas connection

Sublimation Inkjet Printer

TS34-1800A

MimakiTM
Made in Japan

Innovative and cost-effective system

HIGH SPEED and ***CONTINUOUS PRINTING***



- Maximum printing width 190 cm
- High print speed of 32.0 sqm/h
- Improved Productivity by continuous unmanned operation
- Sophisticated RIP maximizes the Performance

- Small variable dots with a maximum resolution of 1440 dpi
- Two Newly Improved Piezo staggered heads
- Automatic Ink cartridges switching function for CMYK
- Mimaki Bulk Inks 2 ltr system pack, ease for bulk production.



Flag



Banner



Sports Apparel



STITCH & COLOR TECHNOLOGY

Head Office : City Heart (3rd Floor), 67, Nayapaltan, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh.
Phone : +880-2-9349934, 9334039, Fax : 880-2-8319716, Cell : +8801926 694929
Email : nafgroup@dhaka.net, Web : www.nafgroup.org
Factory : Plot 45, Road 11, Sector 14, Uttara, Dhaka-1230

MIMAKI ENGINEERING CO., LTD.

2182-3 Shigeno-otsu, Tomi-city, Nagano 389-0512, Japan
Tel: +81-268-78-2288, trading@mimaki.jp, www.mimaki.co.jp



BGMEA leaders, including President Md. Atiqul Islam, Second Vice President SM Mannan (Kochi), Vice President Md. Shahidullah Azim, former President Md. Shafiul Islam and former Second Vice President Md. Siddiqur Rahman, congratulated Bangladesh Bank Governor Dr. Atiur Rahman on being awarded "The Central Banker of the Year" in Asia-Pacific for 2015.

BGMEA President Md. Atiqul Islam paid a courtesy call to outgoing Canadian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Heather Cruden at the latter's office.



BGMEA Vice President Md. Shahidullah Azim attended the opening ceremony of International Garment Accessories and Packaging, Apparel Machinery, Yarns and Fabrics Tradeshow and Symposium as the Special Guest at BICC in Dhaka. Industries Minister Amir Hossain Amu was present at the program as the Chief Guest.

Finance Minister AMA Muhith inaugurated the 12th Dhaka International Textile and Garment Machinery Exhibition at Bangabandhu International Conference Center, Dhaka. FBCCI President Kazi Akram Uddin Ahmed, BGMEA President Md. Atiqul Islam and BTMA President Tapan Chowdhury, among others, were present at the inaugural ceremony.



Promotion of Social and Environmental Standards in the Industry (PSES), GIZ handed over modern environmental measuring instruments and laptops to BGMEA to facilitate detailed environmental assessment of garment factories. BGMEA Vice President (Finance) Reaz Bin Mahmood received the equipment from Magnus Schmid, Program Coordinator of PSES, GIZ while BGMEA Vice President Md. Shahidullah Azim was present.

BGMEA President Md. Atiqul Islam addressed the PRI Quarterly Briefs on “Regulatory Challenges for Trade and Investment” in the city. Dr. Zaidi Sattar, Chairman of Policy Research Institute (PRI), and Dr. Sadiq Ahmed, Vice Chairman of PRI, made the keynote presentations at the seminar.



BGMEA President Md. Atiqul Islam spoke at a seminar on “ICT for better manageability in Private Sector” at Bangabandhu International Conference Center in Dhaka.

Industries Minister Amir Hossain Amu and Senior Secretary of the Commerce Ministry Hedayetullah Al Mamoon, ndc, among others, took part in the discussion.



Commerce Minister Tofail Ahmed is seen speaking at a seminar on the “Possible Implication of the EU-India FTA and EU-Vietnam FTA on Bangladesh's Exports, jointly organized by Bangladesh Foreign Trade Institute (BFTI) and BGMEA. State Minister of Foreign Affairs Md. Shahriar Alam attended the seminar which was chaired by BGMEA President Md. Atiqul Islam. Mostafa Abid Khan, acting CEO of BFTI, presented the keynote paper in the seminar. Vice President (Finance) of BGMEA Reaz Bin Mahmood moderated the seminar.

BGMEA Vice President Md. Shahidullah Azim is seen speaking at an advisory roundtable on environment, health and safety organized by EHS+ School at North South University in Dhaka.





OLD EXPRESS LTD



PRODUCTS CATEGORIES

- Sea freight
- LCL consolidation
- Air freight Express service
- Hazardous/Special container
- Railway transportation
- Documentation/Certificates

Compass Service Scope:

1. Unbeatable discounted rates for DHL/UPS/FedEx/TNT/EMS/Aramex Express delivery Special line express service to Worldwide. Special line expresses service to China/Hong Kong for Import & Export.
2. Air freight.
3. Sea freight:FCL and LCL.
4. Picking up/ Trucking service.
5. Warehousing.
6. Inbound/Outbound customs clearance.
7. Door to door service, sea-land transportation, multi-transportation.
8. Documentation handling (all kinds of certificate of origin, including embassy endorsement, CIQ, CTN, ECTN, FERI, insurance, and so on).
9. Timely cargo tracking, feedback service.



OLD EXPRESS LTD

Office: 398, City Port Building, Shahjalal Islami Bank Bhabon, Ashkona Bazar,, 2nd Floor (Flat-3/E), Dhaka-1230, Bangladesh.
Tel: +88 02 8952917, Hotline: +8801670 666606, +880 1670 666607, e-mail: info@oldexp.com, Web: www.oldexp.com

BB to refinance RMG factories in green scheme

Bangladesh Bank has incorporated garment factories into its green banking refinance scheme to reform, restructure and replace fire equipment in all garment factories for ensuring a good working environment and safety of workers.

The member organisations of Bangladesh Garment Accessories and Packaging Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGAPMEA) and Bangladesh Terry Towel and Linen Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BTTLMEA) will be entitled to the scheme. Bangladesh Bank issued a circular yesterday in this regard that will take immediate effect. Currently, a total of 47 products in nine sectors are under the refinancing scheme benefit, said the circular. The central bank launched Tk200 crore refinancing scheme in August 2009 to set up solar panels, bio-gas plants and industrial ETPs (Effluent Treatment Plants) to help reduce industrial pollution and increase power supply.

Under the scheme, Bangladesh Bank has provided loans to commercial banks at 5% to 12% interest rates for refinancing the green products.

According to the latest available data, BB has disbursed Tk9 crore of refinance fund during July-September period last year.

Under the scheme, refinancing goes to Participatory Financial Institutions (PFIs) that come into an agreement with BB. The total number of PFIs is 52 where 35 are banks and 17 are FIs till July-September quarter last year. PFIs demand a total of Tk86.5 crore from BB for its five projects during the quarter.

The products under the scheme include biomass based large bio-gas plant, poultry and dairy based large bio-gas plant, 1-mw or above solar PV plant, solar cooker assembly plant, solar water heater assembly plant, solar air heater and cooling assembly plant, solar driven cold storage, bio-energy driven power generation plant, power switch assembly plant for power saving, hybrid cook stove assembly plant, LED bulb or tube light assembly plant, power generation from municipal waste, compost generation from municipal waste, recyclable non-oven polypropylene yarn and baggage manufacturing, palm oil production plant, supplying and purifying of surface water project, pumping through solar pumps, establishing green industry and ensuring work environment and safety in the textile and garment industries.

The highest credit limit for supplying and purifying surface water project is Tk3 crore, it is Tk20 crore for establishing green industry while Tk1 crore for ensuring work environment and safety project in the apparel industry.

The Bangladesh Bank has issued the policy guidelines for green banking to the scheduled banks in February 2011. All the 47 banks have their own green banking policy guidelines approved by their board of directors and have Green Banking Unit (GBU) for pursuing green banking activities. They also have their own Green Office Guide for conducting in-house green activities.

The scheme was undertaken in line with the government's plan to meet 5% of the total demand for electricity from green energy by 2015 and 10% by 2020.



ILO lauds RMG's contribution to Bangladesh economy

The readymade garment (RMG) sector of the country has been praised for its contribution towards the country's recent robust economic growth. The International Labour Organization (ILO) in a report made the appreciation. The RMG, which suffered a big jolt from a building collapse in 2013, already made significant headway with support from the ILO and other development organizations and global retailers. The apparel sector maintained its top position among the leading export sectors with 5.0 per cent growth and over US\$22 billion earnings during January-November period in 2014, according to Export Promotion Bureau (EPB). The ILO, in its report titled "World Employment and Social Outlook - Trends 2015 (WESO)", released in Geneva, Switzerland on Tuesday, said Bangladesh had been able to maintain robust economic growth rates in recent years due to strong growth in exports driven by the garment industry.

The report also attributed the growth to the remittance from overseas workers saying that Bangladesh economy had grown around 6.0 per cent for an extended period due to strong domestic demand fuelled by the remittance inflows. As of December 26, 2014 Bangladeshi people living overseas sent home \$14.71 billion, which was 11.27 per cent higher on year-on-year basis, it added. Besides the economic growth, the ILO report said that Bangladesh and many countries in the region reduced the extent of extreme poverty with effective anti-poverty focus adopted in national development plans.

December 2014: Textile exports of Pakistan drops 6.38%

The Pakistan Textile Exporters Association (PTEA) has expressed deep concern over the drop of 6.38% in textile exports in December 2014 despite the availability of GSP Plus scheme. Unprecedented energy shortage and lack of working capital are the major factors behind the substantial drop in exports. PTEA Chairman Sohail Pasha and Vice Chairman Rizwan Riaz apprehended that export numbers might be even worse in coming months as the textile industry of Punjab has been deprived of basic fuel and working capital.

Providing details, they said the country exported textile goods worth \$1.175 billion in December against exports of \$1.255 billion in the same month of previous year.

Value-added items also recorded a negative growth as cotton cloth exports went down 13.62%, bed wear 11.54%, towels 11.39% and made-ups 10.04%.

Energy shortage and liquidity crunch are the prime causes of the decline as a major part of production capacity of the textile industry is lying idle due to short supply of electricity and gas.

Deferred payment allowed for 4 yrs for RMG machinery import

Manufacturers of readymade garments (RMG) have been allowed the opportunity of taking three years more to make their deferred payment on import of capital machinery with prior approval from the central bank, officials have said. The Bangladesh Bank recently assured the apparel-makers of relaxing the existing provisions of settling their deferred payment on letter of credit (L/C) within a year following growing demand from the apex body of the garment sector. Following verbal assurance, the BGMEA has already issued a notification asking its member-factories to apply to the Board of Investment (BOI) prior to seeking permission from the central bank. "The central bank has assured us of considering our long-standing demand of making L/C payment against the import of capital machinery under deferred arrangement in four years," Md Shahidullah Azim, Vice President of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) said. But the interested manufacturers would have to apply to the Foreign Exchange Investment Department (FIED) of the central bank, he added. Now they could seize the opportunity of making deferred payment on import of capital machinery for four years. Terming the move as good, he said it would encourage the manufacturers to make more investment and go for BMRE (balancing, modernisation, renovation and expansion).

Garment exports to new markets on the rise

Garment exports to new destinations are increasing substantially though shipments to traditional markets have been on a downward curve.

The new markets are promising mainly due to the government's stimulus package, aggressive marketing by exporters and relaxation of the "rules of origin" by some countries.

Rules of origin are the criteria that are used to define where a product was made. The origin of a product is important because it will determine how it is treated at the border of an importing country and the origin may impact the import duty payable and admissibility into the country.

Apparel exports to new destinations -- all markets except the EU, the US and Canada -- rose 15.47 percent year-on-year to \$1.87 billion in the first six months (July-December) of the current fiscal year, according to Export Promotion Bureau.

The major new export destinations are Australia, Brazil, Chile, China, India, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, Russia, South Africa and Turkey.

Garment exports to non-traditional markets got a boost when the government offered an incentive package to businesses in fiscal 2008-09 to offset the impact of the global financial crisis on the sector.

Under the scheme, the government gave 5 percent cash incentive to garment exporters in fiscal 2009-10, 4 percent in fiscal 2010-11 and 2 percent in fiscal 2011-12. The exporters are still receiving 2 percent cash incentive for exporting to the new destinations.



New large loan restructuring policy issued

Bangladesh Bank issued large loan restructuring policy for the borrowers facing financial crisis, giving a maximum period of 12 years to repay their overdue and defaulted loans for term credit with a lower rate of interest.

The BB issued a circular to managing directors and chief executive officers of all banks saying that the large borrowers would get a maximum of six years to repay their overdue and defaulted loans for working capital under the policy.

Minimum outstanding loan amount for restructuring will be Tk 500 crore or above in aggregate and the facility will be provided to a particular loan account only once, the circular said.

The interest rate on the restructured loans will be set by the respective banks and the rate will have to be set at least one per cent plus their cost of fund for the restructured loans.

The large borrowers will not require placing adequate physical collateral securities against their restructured loan. The central bank, however, asked the banks to try to enhance the level of physical collaterals to cover the restructured loan.

The large borrowers will have to place their corporate guarantee from all the business concerns of the respective group. Besides, they will have to place personal guarantee from all the directors and owners against their restructured loan.

The large borrowers must apply to get the restructuring scope by June 30, 2015, the circular said. For restructuring, a large borrower will have to pay minimum one per cent down payment if he/she borrowed more than Tk 1,000 crore from the banking sector while he/she will have to pay 2 per cent down payment for a loan of Tk 500 crore or less than Tk 1,000 crore.

After getting the restructuring facility, the large borrowers will enjoy 50 per cent term loan facility against their last credit limit from the banks and 60 per cent for their working capital.

The banks will have to keep the restructured loans under special mention accounts and they must preserve 2 per cent provision against such type of loans. The banks will have to withdraw the restructuring facility if any borrower fails to repay consecutive two quarterly installments.

BB to create \$500m green fund for textile

Bangladesh Bank (BB) will set aside \$500 million of low-cost funds for textile factories to help them adopt eco-friendly technologies and practices, BB Governor Dr. Atiur Rahman said.

The money will come in addition to the existing export development fund (EDF) of \$1.5 billion and will be named Green EDF, he told a discussion at the office of Policy Research Institute of Bangladesh in Dhaka.

PRI organized the discussion on "access to finance: environmental sustainability in the textile sector" in association with the International Finance Corporation.

At present, Bangladesh Bank is offering the EDF to exporters at a rate of LIBOR (London Interbank Offered Rate) plus 2.5 percent for six months. An exporter can borrow a maximum of \$15 million in foreign currency.

"The criteria for accessing the fund by the wet processing units, which are also export-oriented or providing supplies to the garment sector, should be considered in view of the overall sustainability of the textile sector," said Dr. Ahsan H Mansur, executive director of PRI.

At the seminar, he presented a paper, which he prepared in association with Ifty Islam, managing partner of AT Capital.

Dr. Mansur said inefficient resource use and poor environmental practices are major challenges for the textile sector. He said making funds available does not guarantee that entrepreneurs would use the resources.

"Education and awareness is important. Besides, customs and supplementary duties should be eliminated for importing cleaner technology equipment and machinery."

The BB Governor said the country's garment sector would not be able to reach the \$50 billion export target by 2021 without adopting green technologies.

He called for a separate allocation in the budget to promote green financing in the textile sector. "Budgetary allocation makes it possible to provide low-cost funds."

Garment makers demand fair price from EU retailers

Garment makers asked European retailers to pay prices which are proportionate with the rising costs of production at factory level.

The exporters raised the issue of fair price at a meeting with the visiting European Union parliamentary delegation in Dhaka.

The cost of production has been increasing by the year at the factories but the prices for per piece of garment remained the same for years or even declined in some cases, Md. Atiqul Islam, President of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA), said after the meeting.

After the industrial disasters of Tazreen fire and Rana Plaza collapse, a lot of progress has taken place in workplace safety and compliance in the garment sector, he said at the meeting.

The delegation also wanted to know about the status of factory inspection by Accord and Alliance.

Now the Accord and Alliance are monitoring the progresses made on the feedback given after the primary round of inspections.

Philippines garment sector upbeat over EU GSP+

The Philippines' garment sector is expected to be a key beneficiary of the country's inclusion within the European Union's (EU) GSP+ scheme from 1 January, allowing the export of 6,274 additional items of all kinds to the EU at zero tariffs over the next 10 years.

As the only Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) member covered by the scheme, the Philippines government is expecting its competitiveness as an outsourcing manufacturing location grow. But the lack of details at this stage does not allow for reliable impact estimates. By including the Philippines in its GSP+ programme, the EU aims to create an economic incentive encouraging Filipino companies and its government to assume their responsibilities under core international conventions on human and labour rights, environmental protection and good governance, according to Guy Ledoux, the head of the EU delegation to the Philippines ambassador.

Prior to 1 January 2015, the Philippines had been a beneficiary of the EU's regular GSP programme which covers 6,209 products, only 2,442 of which were subject to zero duty while the rest were subject to lower tariffs.

These lower tariffs had been saving garment exporters about 2% of ad valorem duty, which in turn helped garment exports to grow by 14.7% to US\$1.6bn in the January-October period compared with the same period of 2013, according to the Philippine Statistics Authority. This acceleration easily outpaced the total year-on-year export growth rate of 9.2% posted in the same period.



The EU is an important trading partner for Bangladesh as 60 percent of the country's exports are destined to this bloc every year.

Officials from different ministries and the US embassy in Dhaka were also present at the meeting.



US apparel imports cross \$81 bn in 2014

Total apparel imports by the United States stood at \$81.780 billion in 2014, showing an increase of 2.49 per cent over imports of \$79.797 billion made in 2013, according to the latest Major Shippers Report, released by the US Department of Commerce.

China continued to be the main supplier with 36.43 per cent share of all apparel imported by the US last year. However, imports from China grew by a marginal 0.04 per cent to \$29.793 billion.

In contrast, imports from Vietnam, the second-biggest supplier to the US, shot up by 14.06 per cent to \$9.268 billion. Vietnam's share in the US clothing imports also grew to 11.33 per cent, the data showed.

Bangladesh, the world's second largest garment exporter, saw its supplies to the US decrease by 2.29 per cent year-on-year to \$4.834 billion during the year. Similarly, US apparel imports from Indonesia, Cambodia and Pakistan dropped by 2.86 per cent year-on-year, 3.00 per cent and 1.12 per cent to \$4.832 billion, \$2.478 billion and \$1.459 billion, respectively.

Among the top ten apparel suppliers, India, Honduras and Sri Lanka saw their exports increase by 5.89 per cent year-on-year, 3.39 per cent and 6.68 per cent respectively to \$3.4 billion, \$2.582 billion and \$1.759 billion.

Of the total apparel imports made by the US, cotton apparel accounted for \$41.627 billion, whereas man-made fibre apparel contributed \$34.926 billion, wool apparel \$3.979 billion, and clothing made from silk and vegetable fibres \$1.247 billion.

EU business council for Bangladesh holds first meeting

The newly established European Union Business Council Bangladesh (EUBCB) held its first meeting in Dhaka recently, said a EUBCB press release.

The meeting was chaired by the EU Ambassador to Bangladesh, Pierre Mayaudon, and attended by all eight ambassadors or chargés d'affaires of the EU member states based in Dhaka along with trade counsellors and representatives from the bilateral chambers of commerce.

The conclusions of this first EUBCB meeting will be shared with the Bangladesh government when the Trade Sub-Group of the EU-Bangladesh Joint Commission will meet in Dhaka.

The EU is a single market of 28 countries where the Bangladeshi products enjoy a duty-free and quota-free access under the GSP/EBA regime.

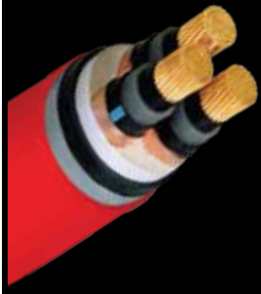
The main mission of the EUBCB is to identify the obstacles to trade and investment between the EU and Bangladesh and then support the EU in its discussions with the Bangladesh government and other stakeholders to strengthen the economic relations, the press release said.

Bangladesh's RMG Export to World

(July-December, FY 13-14 & 14-15)

Million US\$	Woven			Knit			Total		
	Jul-Dec	Jul-Dec	Growth %	Jul-Dec	Jul-Dec	Growth %	Jul-Dec	Jul-Dec	Growth %
Major EU Countries	2013-14	2014-15		2013-14	2014-15		2013-14	2014-15	
Austria	11.09	8.80	-20.64	16.78	15.82	-5.73	27.87	24.62	-11.66
Belgium	161.36	170.75	5.82	212.95	216.43	1.64	374.31	387.18	3.44
Bulgaria	0.03	0.03	10.16	0.61	0.21	-65.76	0.64	0.24	-62.32
Denmark	57.96	78.76	35.89	219.82	242.69	10.40	277.78	321.45	15.72
Finland	4.88	3.70	-24.32	12.63	13.87	9.75	17.52	17.56	0.25
France	273.53	278.83	1.94	479.60	490.14	2.20	753.13	768.97	2.10
Germany	853.39	852.95	-0.05	1,296.21	1285.89	-0.80	2149.60	2138.84	-0.50
Greece	2.83	2.74	-3.04	5.74	7.83	36.39	8.57	10.57	23.39
Italy	209.86	239.96	14.34	336.70	364.95	8.39	546.56	604.91	10.68
Ireland	31.42	42.69	35.87	71.24	68.82	-3.39	102.66	111.51	8.63
Netherlands	140.49	131.37	-6.49	185.87	171.25	-7.86	326.36	302.62	-7.27
Portugal	5.27	5.54	5.15	16.73	15.37	-8.13	22.00	20.92	-4.95
Romania	1.52	1.90	24.80	2.54	2.86	12.76	4.06	4.76	17.28
Spain	283.90	322.05	13.44	417.15	427.50	2.48	701.05	749.56	6.92
Sweden	52.56	55.75	6.06	114.80	130.14	13.36	167.36	185.89	11.07
U.K.	565.43	597.10	5.60	652.07	689.12	5.68	1217.50	1286.22	5.64
Cyprus	0.07	0.20	0.00	1.19	0.65	-45.63	1.25	0.85	-32.23
Czech Republic	30.11	38.74	28.65	21.76	22.86	5.07	51.87	61.60	18.76
Estonia	0.09	0.23	163.06	0.72	0.18	-74.31	0.81	0.42	-48.08
Hungary	0.24	0.20	-17.02	3.92	3.18	-18.91	4.16	3.38	-18.80
Latvia	0.14	1.00	625.31	0.73	1.74	138.63	0.87	2.74	215.81
Lithuania	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.19	0.27	36.17	0.19	0.30	54.07
Malta	0.04	0.32	0.00	1.13	0.74	-34.75	1.17	1.06	-9.52
Poland	92.48	94.55	2.24	149.69	147.05	-1.77	242.18	241.60	-0.24
Slovakia	12.71	11.63	-8.45	24.06	17.26	-28.28	36.77	28.89	-21.43
Slovenia	2.10	5.66	0.00	8.28	12.91	0.00	10.38	18.57	78.92
Sub-Total (EU)	2793.50	2945.52	5.44	4253.11	4349.71	2.27	7046.61	7295.23	3.53
EU % of World	46.69	49.40		71.50	71.76		59.06	60.67	
USA	1,959.38	1819.47	-7.14	616.76	623.34	1.07	2576.14	2442.81	-5.18
% of USA	32.75	30.51		10.37	10.28		21.59	20.32	
Canada	274.61	243.54	-11.31	224.10	182.34	-18.63	498.71	425.88	-14.60
% of Canada	4.59	4.08		3.77	3.01		4.18	3.54	
Non-Traditional Markets									
Australia	69.99	84.09	20.14	138.61	152.71	10.17	208.60	236.79	13.51
Brazil	37.19	40.70	9.44	52.23	58.55	12.10	89.42	99.25	10.99
Chile	4.94	6.55	32.44	12.49	10.85	-13.12	17.43	17.40	-0.21
China	65.95	71.60	8.57	44.15	64.90	47.00	110.09	136.50	23.98
India	43.41	46.83	7.90	9.45	11.37	20.41	52.85	58.21	10.14
Japan	161.84	182.17	12.56	135.16	134.32	-0.62	297.00	316.49	6.56
Korea Rep.	43.07	50.46	17.17	26.58	28.06	5.59	69.64	78.52	12.75
Mexico	28.81	26.30	-8.70	39.73	38.16	-3.93	68.53	64.47	-5.94
Russia	33.14	36.57	10.35	60.79	65.51	7.77	93.93	102.08	8.68
South Africa	16.90	18.06	6.85	9.29	10.57	13.82	26.19	28.63	9.32
Turkey	238.72	160.07	-32.94	96.00	62.53	-34.87	334.72	222.60	-33.50
Other Countries	212.07	230.77	8.82	230.26	268.66	16.68	442.32	499.43	12.91
Sub-Total (Non-Trad.)	956.02	954.17	-0.19	854.72	906.19	6.02	1810.74	1860.36	2.74
% of Non-Traditional	15.98	16.00		14.37	14.95		15.18	15.47	
GRAND TOTAL	5983.51	5962.70	-0.35	5948.69	6061.58	1.90	11932.20	12024.28	0.77

Source: EPB. Compiled by: RDTI Cell, BGMEA

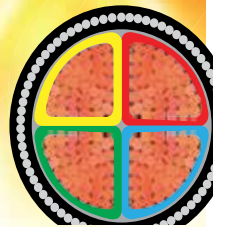


SUPERSIGN[®] **CABLES**

**750°C তাপমাত্রার আগুনেও
সর্টসার্কিট হয় না
ফায়ারপ্রুফ কেবলস**

Since 1963

www.supersigncables.com



A low-angle photograph of a person silhouetted against a bright blue sky, holding a large South African flag high with both hands. The person is also holding a long, dark horn or trumpet. The flag is vibrant with its red, white, green, blue, and yellow colors. The scene conveys a sense of triumph and national pride.

Market Brief

New Market:

South Africa

By A.K.M. Marzanul Islam Joy
& Ratan Saha

- South Africa is becoming one of the important players in the world market. Characterized by an abundant supply of natural resources and large and well-developed financial, legal, communications, energy, and transport sectors and a rapidly expanding middle class, South Africa's economy almost outweighs that of all other African countries.
- South Africa has a stock exchange that is the 16th largest in the world. It is a middle-income, emerging market. The country's modern infrastructure supports a relatively efficient distribution of goods to major urban centers throughout the region.
- South Africa is one of the five emerging (BRICS) economies in the world. The country continues to pursue industrial and agricultural growth and development of its interior. It is expanding its presence in world markets.
- Their daily necessity is growing high as a nation resulting in a growth of import every year. South Africa has a \$1.76 billion apparel market. Bangladesh's share of the South African apparel import is 3.32% in 2013.
- Apparel export growth from Bangladesh to South Africa was 6.60% in 2012 compared to 2011 which declined to -4.89% in 2013. In 2009, apparel export to South Africa was \$ 40.92 million which is \$ 58.55 million in FY 2013. South Africa is becoming one of the new emerging markets for Bangladesh in the African region.

Demographic and Economic Overview: South Africa

Territory	:	1,219,090 sq km
Population	:	52,981,991
Population growth (annual %)	:	-0.48% (2014 est.)
Currency exchange rate	:	1 Rand = US Dollar 0.09 = Euro 0.08 (28 January 2015)
Major Ports	:	Cape Town, Durban, Port Elizabeth, Richards Bay, Saldanha Bay

Source: CIA, World Fact Book

Major Economic Indicators:

GDP (current US\$)	:	350.63 billion (2013)
GDP growth (Annual)	:	1.9%
GDP per capita (current US\$)	:	6,618
Inflation (Annual)	:	3.3%

Source: World Bank

Bilateral Trade between Bangladesh and South Africa:

Bangladesh's Export to South Africa in 2013 – 14	:	US \$ 57.03 Million
Bangladesh's Import from South Africa in 2013 – 14	:	US \$ 64.62 Million
Bangladesh's Trade Deficit with South Africa in 2013 – 14	:	US \$ - 7.59 Million

Source: EPB & Bangladesh Bank; Value in million US\$

Import Scenario of South Africa's Clothing Industry

South Africa's Clothing Import from the World:

Table 1

South Africa's Clothing Import from the World						
Product code	Product label	Value in US\$ million				
		2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
61	Knit	456.74	691.32	817.10	827.00	879.40
62	Woven	509.90	828.86	970.41	838.17	882.40
Total (61+62)		966.64	1520.18	1787.51	1665.17	1761.79
Growth		8.01%	57.26%	17.59%	-6.84%	5.80%

Source: ITC

Table 2

Product code	Product label	South Africa's Clothing Import from Bangladesh				
		Value in US\$ million				
		2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
61	Knit	15.60	14.43	20.59	27.87	24.31
62	Woven	25.32	25.01	37.17	33.69	34.24
Total (61+62)		40.92	39.44	57.75	61.57	58.55
Growth		4.49%	-3.62%	46.44%	6.60%	-4.89%
% of South Africa's total apparel import		4.23%	2.59%	3.23%	3.70%	3.32%

Source: ITC

South Africa's Clothing Import from Bangladesh:

From the table-2, it is seen that import of apparel products from Bangladesh by South Africa radically increased from 2009. It was USD 40.92 million in 2009 and it reached USD 58.55 million in 2013. In 2011 and 2012, the import increased by 46.44% and 6.60% respectively. In 2013, the import dropped by -4.89% and it was 3.32% of South Africa's total apparel import from the world. Bangladesh's share of South Africa apparel import grew significantly as it was only 4.49% in 2009.

Table 3

South Africa's Clothing Import in 2013 Q2 & 2014 Q2 from the World				
Product code	Product label	2013-Q2	2014-Q2	2014-Q2 Change %
61	Knit	208.59	202.12	-3.10%
62	Woven	183.55	177.89	-3.08%
Total (61+62)		392.14	380.01	-3.09%

Source: ITC

Table 4

South Africa's Clothing Import in 2013 Q2 & 2014 Q2 from Bangladesh				
Product code	Product label	Value in US\$ million		
		2013-Q2	2014-Q2	2014-Q2 Change %
61	Knit	6.58	5.80	-11.94%
62	Woven	7.36	6.18	-16.12%
Total (61+62)		13.95	11.97	-14.15%

Source: ITC

It can be observed that in 2013, South Africa's import from Bangladeshi apparel showed significant decrease. In quarter two (Q2) of 2014 knit import from Bangladesh grew by -11.94%. For woven, it grew by -16.12% respectively. The overall import from Bangladesh grew by -14.15% in 2014 Q2.

Apparel Sourcing Trend

Top 10 Knitwear and Woven Garment Exporting Countries to South Africa in 2013:

From the table-5, it is seen that in Knitwear, Bangladesh is the 7th largest exporting country to South Africa. In 2013, Bangladesh exported \$ 24.31 million worth of knitwear and the market share is 2.76%. China is the top supplier followed by Mauritius, Madagascar and Swaziland with market share of 57.74%, 92.95%, 43.09% and 38.68% respectively. Bangladesh is the 7th largest exporting country to South Africa for woven product with a market share of 3.89%. China is the market leader with 56.56% market share. We need to increase our share for these items by our increased presence in the market.

Table 5

Knitwear (61)				Woven (62)			
Imported value in US\$ million			Market Share %	Imported value in US\$ million			Market Share %
Rank	Exporters	2013	2013	Rank	Exporters	2013	2013
	World	879.40			World	882.397	
1	China	507.76	57.74%	1	China	497.355	56.56%
2	Mauritius	92.95	10.57%	2	Swaziland	71.766	8.16%
3	Madagascar	43.09	4.90%	3	Mauritius	53.165	6.05%
4	Swaziland	38.68	4.40%	4	Lesotho	41.221	4.69%
5	India	34.81	3.96%	5	Madagascar	40.974	4.66%
6	Lesotho	32.15	3.66%	6	India	40.568	4.61%
7	Bangladesh	24.31	2.76%	7	Bangladesh	34.243	3.89%
8	Vietnam	11.27	1.28%	8	Vietnam	12.831	1.46%
9	Indonesia	10.12	1.15%	9	Turkey	11.048	1.26%
10	Turkey	6.75	0.77%	10	Italy	8.612	0.98%

Source: ITC

Product analysis

Knitwear

From the table-6, it is seen that among the top 10 Bangladeshi knitwear items, T-shirts, Singlets and other vests are the main items to South Africa as total value is US\$ 8.98 million in 2013. The second top items were Jerseys, Pullovers, Cardigans worth of US\$ 8.95 million.

Table 6: Bangladesh's Top 10 Knitwear Items Exported to South Africa

Product Code	Product Label	South Africa's Import from Bangladesh		
		Value in US\$ million		
		2011	2012	2013
6109	T-shirts, singlets and other vests (knitted or crocheted)	5.73	8.51	8.98
6110	Jerseys, pullovers, cardigans, etc (knitted or crocheted)	5.63	9.89	8.95
6105	Men's shirts (knitted or crocheted)	1.54	1.58	1.88
6104	Women's suits, dresses, skirt etc & short(knitted or crocheted)	0.93	1.63	0.78
6108	Women's slips, panties, pyjamas, bathrobes etc (knitted or crocheted)	0.17	0.64	0.71
6103	Men's suits, jackets, trousers etc & shorts (knitted or crocheted)	0.53	0.80	0.70
6111	Babies' garments(knitted or crocheted)	2.97	1.79	0.62
6106	Women's blouses & shirts(knitted or crocheted)	1.39	0.74	0.61
6116	Gloves, mittens and mitts (knitted or crocheted)	0.36	0.70	0.59
6115	Panty hose, tights, stockings & other hosiery(knitted or crocheted)	0.06	0.12	0.14

Source: ITC

Table 7: South Africa's top 10 Knitwear Items Imported from the World

Product Code	Product Label	South Africa's Import from the World		
		Value in US\$ million		
		2011	2012	2013
6109	T-shirts, singlets and other vests (knitted or crocheted)	220.55	216.99	241.45
6110	Jerseys, pullovers, cardigans, etc (knitted or crocheted)	128.58	132.81	127.41
6104	Women's suits, dresses, skirt etc & short (knitted or crocheted)	55.32	76.61	86.01
6108	Women's slips, panties, pyjamas, bathrobes etc (knitted or crocheted)	66.93	64.57	74.63
6105	Men's shirts (knitted or crocheted)	85.33	69.24	68.08
6111	Babies' garments (knitted or crocheted)	57.86	59.56	59.12
6103	Men's suits, jackets, trousers etc & shorts(knitted or crocheted)	27.35	38.87	40.55
6115	Panty hose, tights, stockings & other hosiery(knitted or crocheted)	33.94	33.54	39.04
6106	Women's blouses & shirts, knitted or crocheted	39.62	27.02	29.27
6107	Men's underpants, pyjamas, bathrobes etc (knitted or crocheted)	24.96	26.04	27.41

Source: ITC

Woven:

From the table, it is seen that among the top 10 Bangladeshi woven wear items, Men's suits, jackets, trousers etc & shorts are the main items worth of US\$ 14.01 million in 2013. The second top item was Men's shirts worth of US\$ 13.37 million.

Table 8: Bangladesh's Top 10 Woven Items exported to South Africa

Product Code	Product Label	South Africa's Import from Bangladesh		
		Value in US\$ million		
		2011	2012	2013
6203	Men's suits, jackets, trousers etc & shorts	10.91	11.58	14.01
6205	Men's shirts	14.30	12.56	13.37
6204	Women's suits, jackets, dresses skirts etc & shorts	7.24	4.95	3.71
6206	Women's blouses & shirts	2.48	1.63	0.96
6201	Men's overcoats, capes, wind-jackets etc	0.58	0.78	0.58
6209	Babies' garments and clothing accessories	1.20	1.36	0.52
6202	Women's overcoats, capes, wind-jackets etc	0.17	0.22	0.39
6210	Garment made up of fabric of heading no 56.02,56.03,59.03,59.06/59.07	0.02	0.03	0.29
6211	Track suits, ski suits and swimwear; other garments	0.09	0.08	0.13
6208	Women's singlets, slips, briefs, pyjamas, bathrobes etc	0.03	0.18	0.11

Source: ITC

Table 9: South Africa's Top 10 Woven Imported from the World

Product Code	Product Label	South Africa imports from World		
		Value in US\$ million		
		2011	2012	2013
6203	Men's suits, jackets, trousers etc & shorts	317.85	263.50	282.61
6204	Women's suits, jackets, dresses skirts etc & shorts	285.35	219.69	237.96
6205	Men's shirts	94.33	85.66	89.62
6206	Women's blouses & shirts	73.73	61.04	66.19
6212	Brassieres, girdles, corsets, braces, suspenders etc & parts	43.41	44.12	40.70
6201	Men's overcoats, capes, wind-jackets etc	31.37	38.16	34.91
6211	Track suits, ski suits and swimwear; other garments	25.48	29.35	30.77
6202	Women's overcoats, capes, wind-jackets etc	18.68	22.21	22.41
6210	Garment made up of fabric of heading no 56.02,56.03,59.03,59.06/59.07	12.82	13.54	18.56
6209	Babies' garments and clothing accessories	25.65	20.91	17.69

Source: ITC

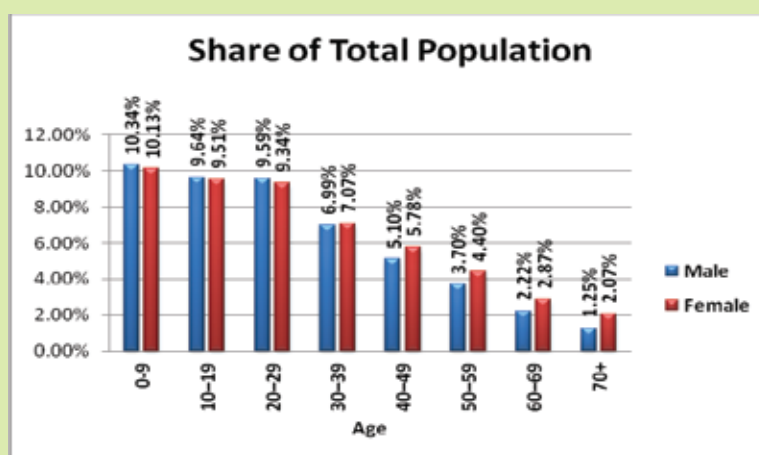
Market Segmentation:

By Age: From the following table, it can be seen that people aging from 25 to 54 are the highest numbers in South Africa within the working ages constituting more than 43% of the total population and can be a good target customer for Bangladesh RMG for the day to day clothing.

Table – 10: Mid-year Population Estimates by Population Group, Age And Sex, 2014

Figure in '0000'											
Age	African		Coloured		Indian/Asian		White		South Africa		Total Population
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
0-9	478.73	469.09	42.71	42.20	9.92	9.70	27.11	26.15	558.47	547.14	1105.60
10-19	435.72	430.47	44.99	44.62	9.82	9.72	29.91	28.88	520.44	513.69	1034.13
20-29	434.87	422.59	40.54	40.74	11.74	11.10	30.64	29.95	517.79	504.37	1022.16
30-39	300.38	303.34	36.06	38.70	12.65	11.13	28.30	28.78	377.39	381.96	759.35
40-49	201.71	235.71	31.28	34.78	9.89	9.19	32.41	32.55	275.30	312.23	587.53
50-59	138.24	171.04	21.09	24.71	7.24	7.50	33.20	34.19	199.77	237.44	437.21
60-69	81.25	108.40	9.82	13.33	4.32	5.04	24.28	28.22	119.67	154.99	274.66
70+	45.97	75.87	4.09	7.49	2.11	3.10	15.60	25.32	67.77	111.77	179.54
Total	2116.87	2216.50	230.58	246.57	67.70	66.49	221.44	234.04	2636.60	2763.59	5400.20

Source: Statistics South Africa



Important Contact Addresses:

Statistics South Africa
170 Andries Street, Pretoria 0002,
Private Bag X 44, Pretoria 001, South Africa
Tel: +27 12 310 8911
Fax: +27 12 321 7381
Email: info@statssa.gov.za
Website: www.statssa.gov.za

Bangladeshi High Commission in Pretoria, South Africa
Head of Mission: Mr Md. Daud Ali, Acting High Commissioner
410 Farenden Street, Sunnyside 0002, Pretoria, South Africa
Tel: (+27) 12 343 2105 – 6
Fax: (+27) 12 343 5222 (Diplomatic)
Fax: 012 343 5224 (Commercial)
Email: bangladeshpta@iburst.co.za

Market Access Requirements:

After continuous efforts and bilateral discussion, we were able to establish our High Commission in Pretoria of South Africa. But South Africa does not have any mission or embassy in Bangladesh. The government of Bangladesh along with the industry representatives is trying to establish more trade friendly relationship with South Africa. One of main problems in South Africa is their high tariff rate which is more than 40%. Every year, very few of our garment exporters participate in the exposition held in South Africa. Our export to South Africa is still insignificant compared to our capability and potentiality in capturing larger market share of South Africa.

Table: South Africa's Customs Tariff Rate for Apparel

Selected Products Codes	Product Description	Total Ad Valorem equivalent tariff (estimated)
61	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted (Knitwear)	42.41%
62	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted (Woven-wear)	42.75%

Codes	Product Description (Knitwear)	Tariff
6101	Men s or boys overcoats, car-coats, capes, cloaks, anoraks (including ski-jackets), wind-cheaters, wind-jackets and similar articles, knitted or crocheted, other than those of heading No 6103	40.00%
6102	Women s or girls overcoats, car-coats, capes, cloaks, anoraks (including ski-jackets), wind-cheaters, wind-jackets and similar articles, knitted or crocheted, other than those of heading 6104	40.00%
6103	Men s or boys suits, ensembles, jackets, blazers, trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches and shorts (other than swimwear), knitted or crocheted	42.58%
6104	Women s or girls suits, ensembles, jackets, blazers, dresses, skirts, divided skirts, trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches and shorts (other than swimwear), (knitted or crocheted)	44.26%
6105	Men s or boys shirts (knitted or crocheted)	45.00%
6106	Women s or girls blouses, shirts and shirt-blouses (knitted or crocheted)	45.00%
6107	Men s or boys underpants, briefs, nightshirts, pyjamas, bathrobes, dressing gowns and similar articles (knitted or crocheted)	43.16%
6109	T-shirts, singlets and other vests (knitted or crocheted)	45.00%
6110	Jerseys, pullovers, cardigans, waistcoats and similar articles (knitted or crocheted)	45.00%
6111	Babies garments and clothing accessories (knitted or crocheted)	45.00%
6112	Track suits, ski suits and swimwear (knitted or crocheted)	43.36%
6113	Garments, made-up of knitted or crocheted fabrics of heading No 5903, 5906, or 5907	40.00%
6114	Other garments (knitted or crocheted)	40.00%
6115	Panty hose, tights, stockings, socks and other hosiery, including stockings for varicose veins and footwear without applied soles (knitted or crocheted)	21.71%
6116	Gloves, mittens and mitts (knitted or crocheted)	30.00%
6117	Other made-up clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted; knitted or crocheted parts of garments or of clothing accessories	36.10%

Codes	Product Description (Woven-wear)	Tariff
6201	Men's or boys overcoats, car-coats, capes, cloaks, anoraks (including ski-jackets), wind-cheaters, wind-jackets and similar articles, other than those of heading No 6203	45.00%
6202	Women's or girls overcoats, car-coats, capes, cloaks, anoraks (including ski-jackets), wind-cheaters, wind-jackets and similar articles, other than those of heading No 6204	45.00%
6203	Men's or boys suits, ensembles, jackets, blazers, trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches and shorts (other than swimwear)	44.70%
6204	Women's or girls suits, ensembles, jackets, blazers, dresses, skirts, divided skirts, trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches and shorts (other than swimwear)	44.84%
6205	Men's or boys shirts	45.00%
6206	Women's or girls blouses, shirts and shirt-blouses	45.00%
6207	Men's or boys singlets and other vests, underpants, briefs, nightshirts, pyjamas, bathrobes, dressing gowns and similar articles	42.75%
6209	Babies garments and clothing accessories	45.00%
6210	Garments, made-up of fabrics of heading 5602, 5603, 5903, 5906 or 5907	24.43%
6211	Track suits, ski suits and swimwear; other garments	28.03%
6213	Handkerchiefs	30.00%
6214	Shawls, scarves, mufflers, mantillas, veils and the like	30.00%
6215	Ties, bow ties and cravats	40.00%
6216	Gloves, mittens and mitts	30.00%
6217	Other made-up clothing accessories; parts of garments or of clothing accessories, other than those of heading 6212	28.55%

Fair Calendar:

SL	Fair Name	VENUE & ADDRESS	Date	Organizers Contact Details
1	Solar / Diesel Africa 2015 International Solar Manufacturers Conference	Hilton Sandton Johannesburg 138 Rivonia Road Sandton, 2196 Tel: +27 11-322-1888 Fax: +27 11 322-1818	03-04 Mar 2015	Solar Plaza P.O. Box 2299 3000 CG Rotterdam Netherlands Tel: +31 10 2809198 Fax: +31 10 2807265
2	E Commerce Show Africa 2015 E-commerce Professionals Expo	Sandton Convention Centre Maude Street Sandown 2196 Tel: 27 (0) 11 779 0000 Fax: 27 (0) 11 779 0001	10-11 Mar 2015	Terrapinn Holdings Ltd 4th Floor, Welken House 10-11 Charterhouse Square London EC1M 6EH UK - United Kingdom Tel: +44 (0)20 7608 7030 Fax:+44 (0)20 7608 7040
3	Retail World Africa 2015 Technology for Retailers Expo	Sandton Convention Centre Maude Street Sandown 2196 Tel:27 (0) 11 779 0000 Fax:27 (0) 11 779 0001	10-11 Mar 2015	Terrapinn Holdings Ltd 4th Floor, Welken House 10-11 Charterhouse Square London EC1M 6EH UK - United Kingdom Tel: +44 (0)20 7608 7030 Fax: +44 (0)20 7608 7040
4	Hostex Johannesburg International exhibition for hospitality and catering	Sandton Convention Centre Maude Street 2196 Johannesburg, Gauten g, South Africa	15-18 Mar 2015	Specialised Exhibitions Montgomery Forum 3, Level 3, Braam Park 33 Hoofd Street 2135 Johannesburg, South Africa Tel: +27 (0)11 8351565 Fax: +27 (0)11 4961161 www.specialised.com www.hostex.co.za
5	South Africa Green Fair & Expo This event showcases products like residential building and renovation, heating, energy and efficiency, to that of business, technology and electronics associated with this field etc.	Heartfelt Arena Voortrekker Road, Pretoria, 0143 Pretoria, South Africa	20-21 Mar 2015	Sagfex 145 St John Street, EC1V4PY London, UK
6	Energy Efficiency World Africa 2015 Energy, Power Efficiency, Energy Saving	Sandton Convention Centre Maude Street Sandown 2196 Tel: 27 (0) 11 779 0000 Fax: 27 (0) 11 779 0001	24-25 Mar 2015	Terrapinn Holdings Ltd 4th Floor, Welken House 10-11 Charterhouse Square London EC1M 6EH UK - United Kingdom Tel: +44 (0)20 7608 7030 Fax: +44 (0)20 7608 7040
7	Womens Lifestyle Expo This event showcases products and services like a wide range of various jewelry & fashion based products and many more related products and services etc. in the Apparel & Clothing, Fashion Accessories industries.	Lookout V&A Waterfront Granger Bay Blvd, V & A Waterfront, 8002 Cape Town, South Africa	27-29 Mar 2015	Mint Productions & Destinations 2nd Floor Lifestyle Centre 50, Kloof Street , Western Cape 8001 Cape Town, South Africa
8	Sustain & Build Africa 2015 International Conference on Energy efficiency and sustainable architecture	Sandton Convention Centre Maude Street Sandown 2196 Tel: 27 (0) 11 779 0000 Fax: 27 (0) 11 779 0001	Proba bly in Mar 2015	Terrapinn Holdings Ltd 4th Floor, Welken House 10-11 Charterhouse Square London EC1M 6EH UK - United Kingdom Tel: +44 (0)20 7608 7030 Fax: +44 (0)20 7608 7040

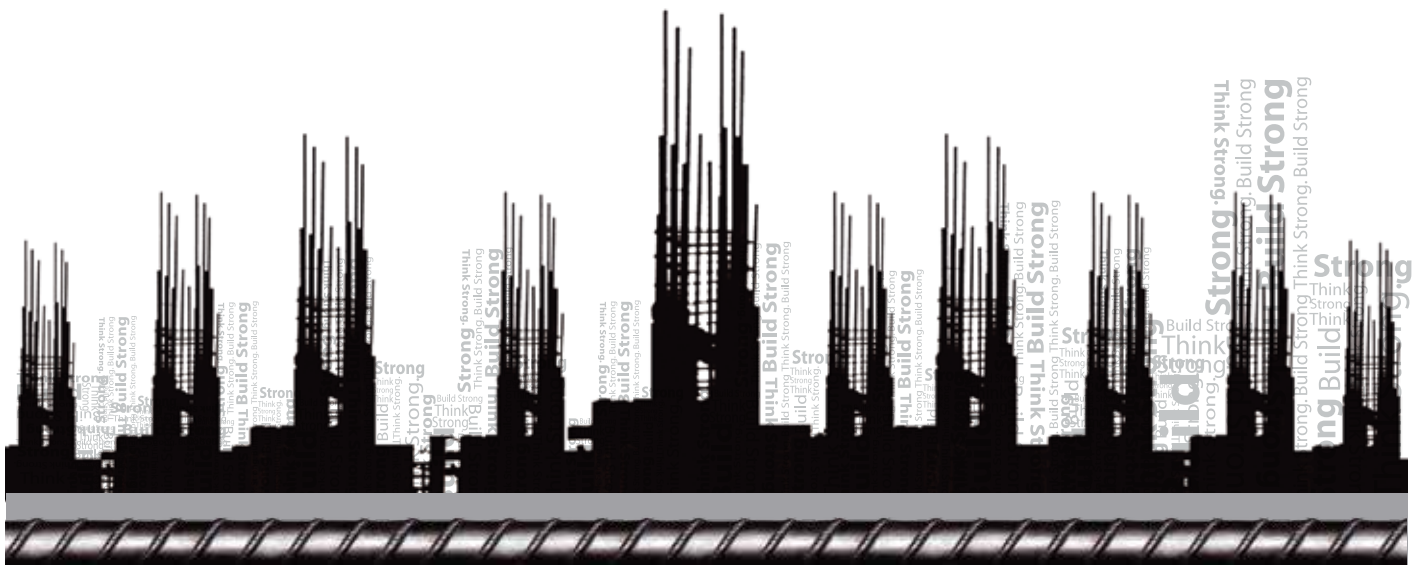
9	Automechanika South Africa Trade fair for automotive parts and equipment	Expo Centre Cnr, Rand Show and Nasrec roads 2013 Johannesburg, Gauteng, South Africa	06 May 2015	Messe Frankfurt GmbH Ludwig-Erhard-Anlage 1 60327 Frankfurt, Germany Tel: +49 (0)69 75750 Fax: +49 (0)69 75756433 www.messefrankfurt.com www.automechanikasa.co.za
10	OSH EXPO Africa National exhibition for occupational safety and health at work	Gallagher Convention Centre 19 Richard Drive, Midrand, Gauteng 1685 Johannesburg, Gauteng, South Africa	12 May 2015	Specialised Exhibitions Montgomery Forum 3, Level 3, Braam Park 33 Hoofd Street 2135 Johannesburg, South Africa Tel: +27 (0)11 8351565 Fax: +27 (0)11 4961161 www.specialised.com www.oshexpoafrika.com
11	IFSEC South Africa Security, Safety and Fire Protection Trade Show	Gallagher Convention Centre 19 Richard Drive, Midrand, Gauteng	12 May 2015	Specialised Exhibitions Montgomery Forum 3, Level 3, Braam Park, 33 Hoofd Street
11	IFSEC South Africa Security, Safety and Fire Protection Trade Show	Gallagher Convention Centre 19 Richard Drive, Midrand, Gauteng 1685 Johannesburg, Gauteng, South Africa	12 May 2015	Specialised Exhibitions Montgomery Forum 3, Level 3, Braam Park, 33 Hoofd Street 2135 Johannesburg, South Africa Tel: +27 (0)11 8351565 Fax: +27 (0)11 4961161 www.specialised.com www.ifsecsa.com
12	Energex Africa The Continent's Energy Solution	Gallagher Convention Centre 19 Richard Drive, Midrand, Gauteng 1685 Johannesburg, Gauteng, South Africa	20 May 2015	Exhibition Management Services 74 Eleventh Street, Parkmore Sandton 2010 Johannesburg, South Africa Tel: +27 (0)11 7837250 Fax: +27 (0)11 7837269 www.exhibitionsafrica.com www.exhibitionsafrica.com
13	The Fashionist The Fashionist provides an interactive platform for participants to generate business through product displays, seminars, conferences and fashion shows. In short, it is an interface between the industry members and technology providers in all segments.	Sandton Convention Centre Maude Street Sandown Johannesburg, South Africa	21-23 May 2015	Turkel Fair Org. (Turkey) Huzur Mah. Fatih Cad. 4. Levent Plaza 67/6 4. Levent, Istanbul, Turkey
14	Markex Johannesburg Trade fair for marketing, promotion and events	Sandton Convention Centre Maude Street 2196 Johannesburg, Gauteng, South Africa	09 Jun 2015	Specialised Exhibitions Montgomery Forum 3, Level 3, Braam Park 33 Hoofd Street 2135 Johannesburg, South Africa Tel: +27 (0)11 8351565 Fax: +27 (0)11 4961161 www.specialised.com www.markex.co.za
15	KITE Industrial Technology Exhibition Durban Industrial technology fair of the KwaZulu-Natal region www.specialised.com	Durban Exhibition Centre Walnut Street 4001 Durban, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa www.kznindustrial.co.za	09 Jun 2015	Specialised Exhibitions Montgomery Forum 3, Level 3, Braam Park 33 Hoofd Street, 2135 Johannesburg, South Africa Tel: +27 (0)11 8351565 Fax: +27 (0)11 4961161
16	Source Africa - Apparel, Textile & Footwear Trade Event The African trade fair for textiles, clothing and shoes	Cape Town Convention Centre Convention Square, 1 Lower Long Street, Cape Town 8001 South Africa, Cape Town	10-11 Jun 2015	LTE - leaders in trade exhibitions Postnet Suite 87, Private Bag X4, Hout Bay, 7872, South Africa Cape Town, South Africa
17	Apparel Textile & Footwear Trade Exhibition Import sourcing show for the clothing, textile & footwear industries.	Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC) Convention Square, 1 Lower Long Street Cape Town, South Africa	24-26 Nov 2015	L. T. E. South Africa 26, Blue Valley Ave, Bokkemensloof South Africa
18	Garments & Textiles Johannesburg Fair of clothing and textiles	Expo Centre Cnr, Rand Show and Nasrec roads 2013 Johannesburg, Gauteng	Probably in Nov 2015	Global Sources 22/F, Vita Tower 29 Wong Chuk Hang Road Aberdeen, Hong Kong, China www.globalsources.com www.globalsources.com
19	ATF Cape Town International Apparel, Textile, and Machinery Trade Exhibition	Cape Town International Convention Center Convention Square, 1 Lower Long Street 8001 Cape Town, Western Cape	Probably in Nov 2015	LTE South Africa Postnet Suite 87 Private Bag X4 Hout Bay 7872 Cape Town, South Africa Tel: +27 (0)21 7905849 Fax: +27 (0)21 7900037 www.exportsintoafrica.co.za www.atfexpo.co.za

Source:
www.tradefairdates.com
www.10times.com
www.eventseye.com

think strong . build strong

Producing Perfectly Refined & BUET Tested
Deformed Bar

**HI
TECH**™
steel & re-rolling
mills ltd.



www.hitech-bd.com

 [hitechsteel](https://www.facebook.com/hitechsteel)

Hot line : 01713 002400

Is your boiler running efficiently?

Installation of a heat recovery system will:

SAVE LOSS OF
Tk **400,000**
every year

SAVE LOSS OF
500,000
liters of water every year

Reduce natural gas
consumption up to
40,500
cubic meters every year

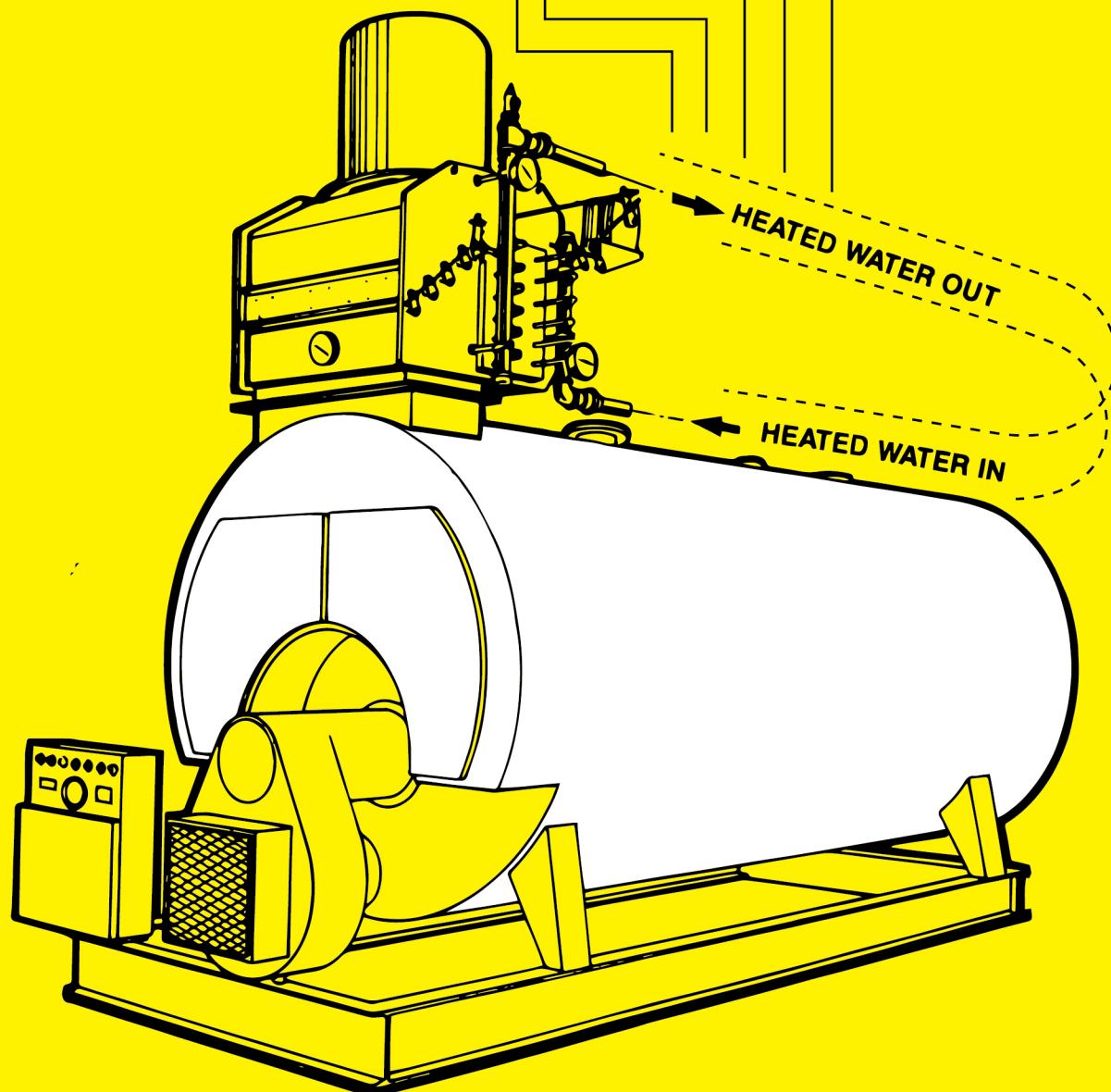
REDUCE 60+ TON OF
CO2 EMISSION EVERY YEAR

Extend the lifetime and
efficiency of the boiler system

IT IS COMMONLY
OBSERVED THAT A
1-TON BOILER
RUNNING AT 80%
LOAD CAPACITY
WASTES AROUND
20% OF ITS STEAM!
THIS INCURS A
DIRECT LOSS OF TK
400,000 PER YEAR.

Installation of a heat
recovery system costs
only Tk. 225,000,
but can benefit you in
many ways

A LITTLE STEP TO
USE HEAT
RECOVERY SYSTEM
IN BOILER CAN
REDUCE YOUR
COST, SAVE WATER
& ENERGY, AND
SAVE
THE ENVIRONMENT



আপনার বয়লারটি কি

সঠিকভাবে চলছে?

তাপ পুনঃব্যবহার ব্যবস্থার

মাধ্যমে একটি বয়লার:

বছরে প্রায়
800,000
টাকা সাশ্রয় করে

বছরে প্রায়
500,000
লিটার পানি সাশ্রয় করে

বছরে প্রাকৃতিক গ্যাসের ব্যবহার
80,500
কিউবিক মিটার পর্যন্ত কমিয়ে দেয়

বছরে ৬০ টনেরও অধিক
কার্বন নিঃসরণ কম হয়

বয়লারের কার্যক্ষমতা ও
জীবনকাল বাড়িয়ে দেয়

সাধারণত দেখা যায়

যে, একটি ১ টন

ক্ষমতাসমপন্ন বয়লার

সর্বোচ্চ ৮০% দক্ষতায়

চলে এবং ২০%

অপচয় করে। যার

ফলে বছরে প্রায় ৪

লক্ষ টাকার ক্ষতি হয়।

বয়লারের তাপ পুনঃব্যবহার ব্যবস্থা

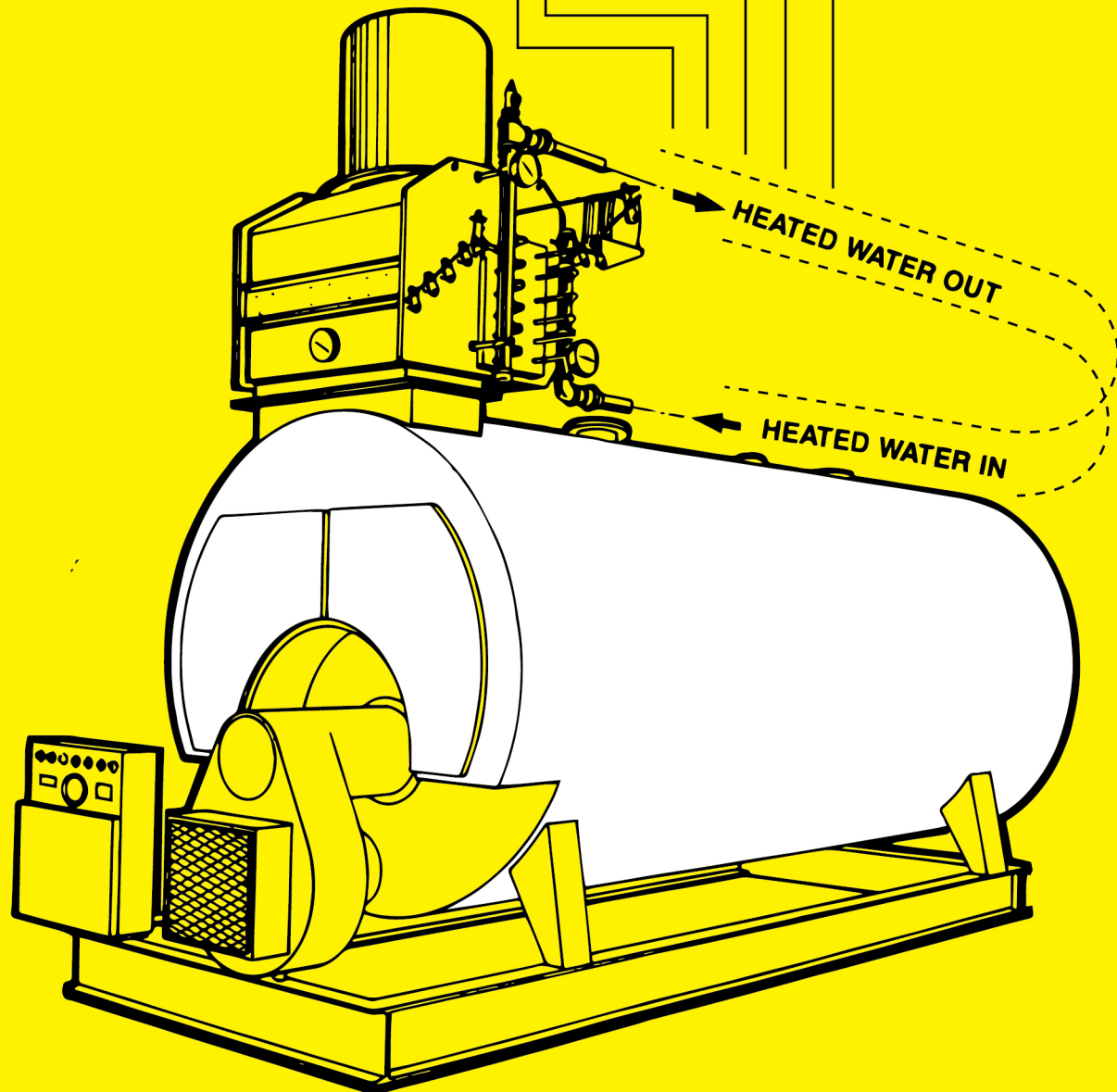
স্থাপনের মাধ্যমে এ অপচয় রোধ করা সম্ভব।

তাপ পুনঃব্যবহার ব্যবস্থা স্থাপনে খরচ হয়

মাত্র ২২৫,০০০ টাকা, কিন্তু তাতে রয়েছে

নানাবিধ সুবিধা।

বয়লারের তাপ
পুনঃব্যবহার ব্যবস্থা
স্থাপনের এই ছোট একটি
পদক্ষেপ ব্যয় সাশ্রয়
করবে, পানি ও বিদ্যুৎ
সাশ্রয় করবে এবং সর্বপরি
পরিবেশ দূষণমুক্ত রাখবে।



Toward Resource Efficiency & Environmental Sustainability. An initiative of





Intertek's New Services for Your Sustainable Future.

Intertek Bangladesh believes in bringing the world class services that enable its partners to drive the organizational growth and profitability. Our new services include:

FOOTWEAR & LEATHER TESTING
HARDLINE PRODUCTS INCLUDING CERAMIC, PLASTICS & PACKAGING
FIRE DOOR & BUILDING PRODUCTS TESTING
LEAN SIX SIGMA / PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMMES

As a partner in progress, we continuously support organizations to improve business performance, product safety, sustainability and translate those into business excellence.

'Intertek Bangladesh thanks all its partners on its 15th anniversary.'

Intertek

Valued Quality. Delivered.



Inspection



Intertek
Certification



Auditing

Innovation is Intertek



INTERTEK HOUSE BANGLADESH

Phoenix Tower, 2nd & 3rd Floor,
407, Tejgaon I/A, Dhaka
Hunting Number: +8809666776669
www.intertek.com

Textiles For Business Queries: Footwear
Leather goods, Inspection, Home Furnishings
Accessories Food, Government and Trade Se

Dr. Karthik N.D. Director, Intertek Bangladesh

Email : karthik.nd@intertek.com

sales.bangladesh@intertek.com



Outsourcing



Advisory



Training



Quality Assurance



FLY. SYLHET

Weekly **11** Flights

Dhaka-Sylhet

Flight No.	Departure	Arrival	Days
VQ951	12:45	13:25	Daily
VQ953	14:45	15:25	Tue, Thu, Fri & Sun

Sylhet-Dhaka

Flight No.	Departure	Arrival	Days
VQ952	13:55	14:35	Daily
VQ954	15:55	16:35	Tue, Thu, Fri & Sun

Weekly 38 Flights to Chittagong
12 Flights to Cox's Bazar
7 Flights to Jessore

Helpline
13603
flynovoair.com