Doing Business with Bangladesh

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DOING BUSINESS WITH BANGLADESH

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

High Commission of India
Dhaka
February 2017
MESSAGE FROM
HIGH COMMISSIONER

Bangladesh is India’s most important trading partner in South Asia. Our bilateral trade has registered a substantial increase over the last few years. Since 2001-02, Bangladesh’s exports to India grew ten times and India’s exports (and the total trade) grew nearly six fold. Total India-Bangladesh trade stood at USD 6.14 billion in 2015-16. Companies from both India and Bangladesh are also exploring new opportunities for investing and setting up joint ventures in each other’s country. With GDP growth rates of 6-7% over the last few years, Bangladesh holds great potential to generate new opportunities for trade and investment.

Governments of both countries have also taken several measures to facilitate bilateral trade and investment. There is great emphasis on improving connectivity between the two countries by facilitating road, rail, waterways and airways transportation. We are also working towards improving the trade and immigration infrastructure at our borders to facilitate easier flow of goods and people.

With increasing interest from the Indian business community in Bangladesh, we have compiled this brochure to respond to questions normally posed by Indian businesses seeking to explore the Bangladesh market. I am hopeful that the Indian business community will find it useful.

We have tried to include as much information on the Bangladesh economy, our bilateral engagement and the institutional framework as possible. We welcome your comments, suggestions and feedback to further improve the brochure. You may write to fscom@hcidhaka.gov.in/com1.dhaka@mea.gov.in in this regard.

Harsh Vardhan Shringla
01. What are the salient features of Bangladesh economy?

Part of the Goldman Sachs' Next Eleven Emerging Economies, Bangladesh’s economy is the 44th largest in the world in nominal terms and 32nd largest by purchasing power parity. Bangladesh was the second fastest growing major economy of 2016, with a growth rate of 7.1%. With GDP growth rates of 6-7% over the last few years, Bangladesh holds great potential to generate new opportunities for trade and investment.

The economic growth of Bangladesh has been largely driven by exports of readymade garments, remittances and the domestic agricultural sector. The country has pursued export-oriented industrialization with its key export sectors including readymade garments, shipbuilding, fish and seafood, jute and leather goods. It is also supporting the development of industries such as pharmaceuticals, steel, information and communication technology, and food processing.

The financial sector of Bangladesh is the second largest in the subcontinent. Dhaka and Chittagong are the principal financial centers of the country, being home to the Dhaka Stock Exchange and the Chittagong Stock Exchange.

Some basic economic indicators are given below:

**Bangladesh: Basic Economic Indicators**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GDP (2015-2016)</td>
<td>US $ 195.08 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDP Growth (2015-2016)</td>
<td>7.11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per Capita GDP (2015-2016)</td>
<td>US $ 1,385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per Capita GNI (2015-2016)</td>
<td>US $ 1,465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sectoral Share of GDP (2015-2016)</td>
<td>Agriculture (15.35%), Industry (31.54%), Services (53.12).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Growth (2015-2016)</td>
<td>11.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inflation (December 2016)</td>
<td>5.52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>External Debt (2015-2016)</td>
<td>US $ 6.5 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Direct Investment (2015-2016)</td>
<td>US $ 2,502.41 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total export (2015-2016)</td>
<td>US $ 34,257.18 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Import (2015-2016)</td>
<td>US $ 42,921 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Exchange Reserve (Dec 2016)</td>
<td>US $ 32092.2 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remittances (2015-2016)</td>
<td>US $ 14931.18 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Exchange Rate (2015-2016)</td>
<td>US $ 1 = Tk. 78.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area</td>
<td>1,49,537 square km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital</td>
<td>Dhaka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>159.9 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major cities</td>
<td>Dhaka, Chittagong, Sylhet, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barishal, Rangpur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard Time</td>
<td>IST +30 minutes</td>
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(Source: Bangladesh Bank, Economic Review 2016, Bangladesh Tourism Board)
02. What is the recent trend in India-Bangladesh trade and commercial relations?

Bangladesh is India's biggest trade partner amongst the SAARC countries. It is also one of the biggest destinations for Indian exports in the SAARC region. India became the 11th largest destination for exports from Bangladesh in 2015-16. The total trade between the two countries has increased to US$ 6.14 billion in 2015-2016 from US$ 5.2 billion in 2011-2012.

A good number of Indian companies are tapping the investment opportunities that exist in Bangladesh. Companies such as Tata Motors, Hero MotoCorp, Airtel, Dabur, Sun Pharma, Godrej, VIP, CEAT Tyres and Aditya Birla Cement have set up or are establishing their manufacturing facilities in the country. In the Bangladesh Investment and Policy Summit held in January 2016, Adani Group and Reliance ADAG announced their intent to invest around USD 11 billion in power, LNG and ports sectors in Bangladesh.

### Trends in India-Bangladesh Merchandise Trade

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh's Exports to India (US$ million)</td>
<td>498.4</td>
<td>563.96</td>
<td>456.63</td>
<td>527.16</td>
<td>689.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh's Imports from India (US$ million)</td>
<td>4743.3</td>
<td>4776.1</td>
<td>6034.8</td>
<td>5816.9</td>
<td>5452.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Trade (US$ million)</td>
<td>5241.7</td>
<td>5340.06</td>
<td>6491.43</td>
<td>6344.06</td>
<td>6142.52</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Source: Bangladesh Bank and Export Promotion Bureau, Bangladesh)

(Nota: Fiscal year in Bangladesh is from July to June.)
03. What are the top ten products exported by India to Bangladesh?

Main products exported by India to Bangladesh are: (i) Cotton (all types), cotton yarn / thread and cotton fabrics; (ii) Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling stock, and parts and accessories thereof; (iii) Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof; (iv) Cereals; (v) Edible vegetable and certain roots and tubers; (vi) Iron and Steel; (vii) Organic chemicals; (viii) Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers, television image and sound recorders and reproducers and parts and accessories of such articles; (ix) Plastics and articles thereof; (x) Tanning or dyeing extracts; tannins and their derivatives; dyes, pigments and other colouring matter; paints and varnishes; putty and other mastics; inks.

04. What are the top ten products imported by India from Bangladesh?

Main products imported by India from Bangladesh are: (i) Vegetable textile fibres nes, paper yarn, woven fabric (jute and jute products); (ii) Articles of apparel, accessories, not knit or crochet; (iii) Other made textile articles, sets, worn clothing etc; (iv) Articles of apparel, accessories, knit or crochet; (v) Wadding, felt, nonwovens, yarns, twine, cordage, etc; (vi) Animal, vegetable fats and oils, cleavage products, etc; (vii) Lead and articles thereof; (viii) Edible fruit, nuts, peel of citrus fruit, melons; (ix) Cotton; (x) Inorganic chemicals, precious metal compound, isotopes.

05. What are the principal export destinations and main products exported by Bangladesh worldwide?

Bangladesh's principal export destinations include: United States, Germany, The United Kingdom, France, Spain, Italy Netherlands, Belgium, Canada and Turkey. Readymade garments constitute more than 81% of its total exports. Its leading export items worldwide include: (i) Articles of apparel, accessories, not knit or crochet; (ii) Articles of apparel, accessories, knit or crochet; (iii) Other made textile articles, sets, worn clothing etc; (iv) Vegetable textile fibres nes, paper yarn, woven fabric; (v) Footwear, gaiters and the like, parts thereof; (vi) Fish, crustaceans, molluscs, aquatic invertebrates nes; (vii) Articles of leather, animal gut, harness, travel goods; (viii) Mineral fuels, oils, distillation products, etc; (ix) Raw hides and skins (other than furskins) and leather; (x) Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery, etc.

06. What are the principal sources of imports and main products imported by Bangladesh?

Bangladesh's main import sources are: China, India, Singapore, Japan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Brazil, Kuwait and Hong Kong. Main imports items include: (i) Cotton,(all types) cotton yarn/thread and cotton fabric; (ii) Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances, parts thereof; (iii) Mineral fuel, mineral oils and product of their distillation, bituminous substances; (iv) Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers, television image and sound recorders and reproducers and parts and accessories of such articles; (v) Iron and steel; (vi) Plastics
and articles thereof; (vii) Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products, prepared edible fats, animal or vegetable wax; (viii) Cereals; (ix) Vehicles other than railway or tramway, rolling stock and parts and accessories thereof; (x) Fertilizer.

07. What is the customs tariff regime in Bangladesh?

Bangladesh has reduced tariff rates over the past 20 years. There are no quotas on imports. Customs duties are levied on all imports except capital machinery, raw materials for medicine, poultry medicine, feed and machinery, defense equipment, chemicals for leather and leather goods, private power generation units, textile raw materials and machinery, solar power equipment, relief supplies, fire doors for garment factories and goods for disabled people.

Bangladesh allows duty-free (bonded) imports of certain raw materials to be used for producing finished goods that are 100 percent destined for export. For additional information on customs duties, please visit the website of the National Board of Revenue, Bangladesh: http://www.nbr.gov.bd. Also see more details on SAFTA under point 9.

08. Which are the potential sectors for increasing trade and commerce between India and Bangladesh?

The products/sectors which hold great potential for exports and investments including joint ventures include: (i) Cotton yarn and fabric; (ii) Man-made yarn and fabrics; (iii) Machinery (textile machinery in particular) and mechanical appliances & parts thereof; (iv) Organic and inorganic chemicals; (v) Automobiles; (vi) Iron and steel items; (vii) Electrical and electronics items; (viii) Footwear; (ix) Horticultural products; (x) Information technology; (xi) Health equipments and products; (xii) Pharmaceuticals etc.

09. What are the institutional mechanisms for facilitating trade and investment between India and Bangladesh?

India and Bangladesh have a bilateral trade agreement which was renewed during the visit of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to Bangladesh in June 2015. The details of the other institutional mechanisms to facilitate bilateral trade and investments are as below:

South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA): Under SAFTA, Bangladesh extends preferential tariffs to Indian exports of products outside the sensitive list maintained by it. Bangladesh sensitive list for India (and other non Least Developed Countries) currently has 993 items. Since 2011 India has provided duty free quota free access to Bangladesh (and other SAARC LDCs) for all tariff lines except tobacco and alcohol. For more information please visit: www.saarcsec.org.

Agreement on Promotion and Protection of Investments: India and Bangladesh also have an agreement on promotion and protection of investments which has been in force since 2011. A Joint Interpretative Statement to the agreement is under consideration to bring the latter in line with the new model Bilateral Investment Treaty approved by the Union Cabinet in November 2015.
Border Infrastructure for Trade: The movement of goods between India and Bangladesh by roads is operationalized through 49 Land Customs Stations (LCSs) and 2 Integrated Check Posts (ICPs) along the border. Of the 49 LCSs, 36 are currently functional. The Agartala ICP is operational since November 2013. The ICP at Petrapole was inaugurated by the Prime Ministers of India and Bangladesh on July 21, 2016. More than 50% of India’s trade with Bangladesh passes through the Petrapole (India) – Benapole (Bangladesh) land border. Government of India also plans to upgrade 8 more of the existing LCSs into ICPs to boost bilateral trade and commerce. The next LCS to be upgraded will be Dawki in Meghalaya where the foundation stone has been laid in January 2017 and work will begin shortly. The list of the functional 2 ICPs and 36 LCSs is at Annexure I.

Protocol on Inland Water Trade and Transit (PIWTT): For facilitating trade and transit between the two countries through the inland waterways, India and Bangladesh have a Protocol on Inland Waterways Trade and Transit (PIWTT) that has been operational since 1972. The PIWTT was also renewed for a period of five years with provision for auto renewal during Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s visit. PIWTT permits movement of goods over barges/vessels through the river systems of Bangladesh on eight specific routes between points in India and Bangladesh, and between points in India through Bangladesh. The PIWTT also allows for transshipment of goods to India’s northeastern routes through the Ashuganj River Port (and from there to Akhuara-Agartala by road) in Bangladesh. The first transshipment under this arrangement commenced in June 2016. In order to strengthen the infrastructure and facilitate movement of goods through the waterways, India is investing in establishing an Inland Container Port (ICP) at Ashuganj, and in widening the existing road between Akhaura Land Port and Ashuganj to 4 lanes. These two projects are being implemented under the second Line of Credit of 2 billion dollars to Bangladesh.

Coastal Shipping Agreement: A significant development in connectivity has been the beginning of the direct sea movement of containerized/bulk/dry cargo between the two countries pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Coastal Shipping signed during Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s visit in June 2015. It has reduced the shipping time between India and Bangladesh from 30-40 days to 7-10 days and has the potential to emerge as an economical mode of transportation for the business communities on both sides. It also has the potential to decongest roads and Land Custom Stations through which most of the trade is taking place now. The first cargo ship under this framework sailed from Chittagong to Vishakhapatnam in March 2016. In February 2017, container services have also been launched between Kolkata to Pangaon (around 20 km from Dhaka) under the Coastal Shipping Agreement.

MoU on the Use of Chittagong and Mongla Ports for Transfer of Goods to and from India: During the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi an MoU on the use of Chittagong and Mongla ports for transfer of goods to and from India was also signed.
10. Do apex trade bodies in India have close collaboration with their counterparts in Bangladesh?

The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), and Associated Chambers of Commerce (ASSOCHAM) have institutional tie-ups with India-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce & Industry (IBCCI), Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FBCCI), Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MCCI), Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry (DCCI).

11. How is the connectivity between India and Bangladesh?

Bus services between Kolkata-Dhaka, Agartala-Dhaka, Kolkata-Agartal, Guwahati-Shillong-Dhaka and Kolkata-Khulna are operational.

The pre-1965 railway links between the two countries are also being revived. Four of the erstwhile six rail links are already operational. The remaining two links are also under consideration for revival. Two new rail links are being developed to connect Tripura and Bangladesh. The Moirree Express between Kolkata-Dhaka-Kolkata has now increased its frequency from 3 days to 4 days-a-week.

There are presently around 100 flights operating weekly between India and Bangladesh connecting various Indian cities like New Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai to Dhaka and Chittagong. Air India, Air India Express, Jet Airways, Spice Jet, Biman Bangladesh, Novo Air, and US-Bangla are operating regular services. More Airlines from both the countries are planning to commence operations on existing and new sectors.

Bangladesh and India are also signatories to the “Motor Vehicles Agreement for the Regulation of Passenger, Personal, and Cargo Vehicular Traffic between Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal (BBIN)”. Under the BBIN Motor Vehicles Agreement, the trial run of a cargo truck between Dhaka and Delhi was completed successfully in September 2016.

12. What is the quantum of Indian investments in Bangladesh?

Indian investments proposals registered with the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) are to the tune of USD 3 billion. Indian companies/individuals have invested across a wide range of sectors including textile, automotive, telecommunication, pharmaceutical and cement. The Foreign Direct Investment in Bangladesh from India in 2015-16 and 2014-15 stood at USD 88 million and USD 82.79 million respectively.

13. Where can I get information on how to invest in Bangladesh?

Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA), established in 2016 is the Government agency providing one-stop services to companies interested in investing Bangladesh. The key objectives of BIDA are to provide investment facilitation, investment promotion & policy advocacy services to consolidate investments within Bangladesh. BIDA also identifies thrust sectors and provides support to investors keen on setting up business
Companies in commencing their production activities rapidly. EPZs have been successful in triggering impressive growth in exports and generating employment, mainly in the RMG sector.

For more information, please visit: http://epzbangladesh.org.bd.

**BEZA**, set up in 2010 under the Prime Minister's Office, oversees the establishment of Economic Zones (EZs) in Bangladesh. BEZA aims to establish 100 Economic Zones on 30,000 hectares of land in the next 15 years with a target of employment generation for 10 million people.

Broadly there are three modes of development of economic zones in Bangladesh: (i) Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode, (ii) Private economic zone mode, and (iii) G2G economic zones.

PPP economic zones in Mongla and Mirshorai are under construction; so far 11 pre-qualification licenses have been issued to large private conglomerates in Bangladesh to set up private economic zones; countries including India are envisaging development of G2G economic zones in Bangladesh.

During the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Bangladesh, it was agreed that two SEZs will be given to India for investment by Indian companies. Mongla and Bheramara have been identified as potential sites for setting up these economic zones.

For more information on incentives available to the developers and investors/EZ users, services extended by BEZA, and potential sites for developing as economic zones, please visit http://www.beza.gov.bd/.
14. Can Bangladesh citizens and entities invest in India?

Citizens of Bangladesh or entities incorporated in Bangladesh can invest in India with the prior approval of the Government of India, in accordance with foreign investment policy regime.

15. How is the industrial/business infrastructure in Bangladesh?

Government of Bangladesh has been pursuing a market-oriented industrial policy. The key features of the Government's industrial policy are: expansion of the production base of the economy, promotion the private sector to lead the growth of industrial production and investment, attention on the role of the government as the facilitator in creating an enabling environment for expanding private investment and sustained economic growth. In order to strengthen the industrialization in the country, a robust infrastructure is necessary.

In the current decade, Bangladesh has made remarkable progress in transportation connectivity, power and overall IT infrastructure. Government of Bangladesh has been proactive in successfully undertaking new infrastructure projects to bolster industrial growth in the country.

Transportation & Communication: Massive development works for road and rail infrastructure are underway to support the growing industrialization of the country. In 2015-2016, 12 new bridges were constructed and 52 bridges renovated. Dhaka-Chittagong Highway, arguably the most important highway with its substantial contribution to the overall connectivity and industrial linkages in the country, has been widened to four lanes and is expected to be further widened to six lanes.

Between 2011-2012 and 2014-2015, a significant number of flyovers were also built in and around Dhaka and Chittagong such as Mirpur Airport flyover (1.8Km), Biswa road-Airport intersection, and Mayor Mohammad Hanif flyover (11.8 km). The DEPZ-Chandra road had also been renovated during this period.

Bangladesh Railways has a total of ~2,900 route-km railway line and it is connected by rail to India by Darshana, Rohanpur, Benapole and Birol. Development of Bangabandhu Multipurpose Bridge over Jamuna River has improved connectivity of the west and southwest Bangladesh with the rest of the country. During 2014-2015, the construction of double line between Bhairab Bazar and Tongi, track doubling between Laksham-Chinikia Astana, construction of Pachurigaon, Faridpur-Bhanga, had been completed.

Construction work on Padma Multipurpose Bridge is ongoing and upon completion, seamless access (by both road and rail) would be set up with southwest part of Bangladesh which in turn would generate significant trade linkages.

Mongla and Chittagong Ports are the major sea ports of Bangladesh. Chittagong handles more than 92% of international cargo of Bangladesh. Various infrastructure improvement initiatives have been undertaken by the Government to improve the serviceability of these two ports. Also, Pyra Port is poised to be developed as the biggest sea port in Bangladesh; once operational, it will further improve the foreign trade linkages of Bangladesh.

Bangladesh has 3 international (Dhaka, Chittagong, and
Sylhet) and 12 domestic Airports which offer regular flights between major cities within Bangladesh as well as cities in other countries like India, Middle East, China, etc. Dhaka International Airport is the largest Airport in Bangladesh with annual handling of ~6 million (international and domestic) passengers and ~0.15 million MT of freight and mail. To cater to the increasing traffic, Government of Bangladesh is planning to expand and develop associated infrastructure of Dhaka International Airport. The Government also intends to construct a new international Airport named “Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib International Airport”.

To improve telecommunication facilities, Government has opened up the sector to private participation with many homegrown and international and international players like Grameenphone, Banglalink and Robi-Axiata providing telecommunications services. Bangladesh has approximately 120.728 million mobile subscribers (as in October 2016). Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission is the nodal agency for the telecom sector and was formed in 2002.

**Power & Energy:** Presently natural gas forms the backbone of Bangladesh’s power sector with 62.78% of the installed power generation capacity based on natural gas. Current installed capacity (as on January 01, 2017) in Bangladesh has reached 13,151 MW (15,351 including the captive power generation capacity) from 5,936 MW in 2011. Of this, a little over 50% is contributed by the public sector. The Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) is the statutory body responsible for majority of the power generation and distribution across the country.

According to Petrobangla, the state owned oil & gas company, Bangladesh has 26 gas fields with remaining gas reserves of approximately 13.60 trillion cubic feet as on January 01, 2016. Bangladesh currently faces a shortage of natural gas with country’s daily demand (currently estimated at over 3,300 million cubic feet) outstripping the supply. To address the shortage, the Government is taking a number of steps including exploration of new onshore and offshore gas blocks, and import of liquefied natural gas (LNG) and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG).

**Banking & Financial Sector:** The Government has been undertaking reform initiatives to improve regulatory mechanism and monitoring of banks and financial institutions. Bangladesh has two stock exchanges at Dhaka and Chittagong. Bangladesh Bank is the Central Bank which regulates the financial sector. Scheduled Banks are licensed under the Bank Company Act, 1991 (Amended up to 2013). Currently 6 state owned Commercial Banks, 2 Specialized Banks, 31 Private Commercial banks, 8 Islamic Shariah based Private Commercial Banks, 9 Foreign Commercial Banks, 4 non-Scheduled Banks, and 31 Financial Institutions are operating in Bangladesh. State Bank of India, Punjab National Bank (representative office) and Axis Bank (representative office) are also operating in Bangladesh.
16. What are the new initiatives undertaken by the Government to improve the infrastructure to attract more investment in Bangladesh?

In order to generate sustained levels of interest from the foreign investors, Bangladesh has planned significant development of its present infrastructure. Different infrastructure projects are at different stages of planning/construction, and all these initiatives are certain to strengthen the infrastructure readiness of Bangladesh. A snapshot of the major proposed infrastructure projects is as below:

**Transportation & Communication:** Bangladesh has given strong impetus to developing its transportation & communications infrastructure. Some of the major projects in this area include:

- **Padma Bridge** – multipurpose road-rail bridge across the Padma River which will connect Dhaka to south west part of Bangladesh, thus providing direct road and rail access from north to south of the country.

- **Dhaka Metro** which upon completion is envisaged to run from Uttara to Motijheel serving 16 stations along the way. The project is jointly financed by the Government of Bangladesh and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

- **Payra Sea Port** is a deep sea port envisaged to be developed in order to ease the load at the Chittagong Port.

- **Dohazari-Cox’s Bazar-Gundum Rail Line** which is expected to connect key nodes of Chandanaish, Satkania and Lohagara of Chittagong, Chakaria, Ramu, Cox’s Bazar Sadar, and Ukhiya of Cox’s Bazar and Gundum in Naikhanyangchari of Bandarban over 128 km.

- **Bus Rapid Transit System** that is envisaged to have 25 stations on a 20.5 km BRT route from the Gazipur terminal to the airport. Six flyovers will also be built as a part of this project.

- **Dhaka Chittagong Elevated Expressway** which is envisaged as a 217 km elevated expressway between Dhaka and Chittagong at an estimated cost of BDT 700 billion.

- **Khulna Mongla Rail Line:** The Khulna-Mongla Railway broad gauge line of length 64.75 km is under development by the Bangladesh Railways (joint partnership of India and Bangladesh governments), with an aim to contribute to the financial growth, and enhance export-import volume of the country by connecting Mongla Port to the rest of Bangladesh.

- **Agartala-Akhaura Rail Line:** Around 15 km long rail line between Agartala and Akhaura is being constructed under grant from India. Once completed, it will improve connectivity between India and Bangladesh.

- **Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib International Airport:** Proposed new international airport located in Char Jhanjat (~50 km from Dhaka). It would be connected through a link route to the Proposed Dhaka Mass Rapid Transit Route (Motijheel to Diabari Depot).

- **Proposed Khan Jahan Ali Airport:** Proposed Khan Jahan Ali Airport (Bagerhat Airport) is located at ~20
km from Mongla Port and access takes place by Khulna-Mongla Highway. Land for this development has been allotted and construction is yet to commence

**Infrastructure Improvement of Saidpur and Barisal Airports:** Improvement of these two domestic airports to facilitate operation of large body aircrafts

To improve connectivity with the financial centers and the capital city of Dhaka, new railroads, additional roads and a flyover are expected to be constructed by December 2018

Expansion work of the 135 km Bhanga-Benapole and the 241 km Bhanga-Kuakata roads has already commenced

Major road projects under construction: 13.31KM flyover from Shantinagar to Mawa Road, 10 km Babubazar-Postogola, 33km Postogola-Mawa, 50km Janjira-Bhanga, 6.15km Padma Bridge, 10.5 km Jinjira

Energy & Power: Bangladesh has expanded its electricity production and network over the years. The Government has announced plans for generating 24,000 MW of power by 2021, 40,000 MW by 2030 and 60,000 MW by 2041 indicating its focus on strengthening the energy & power sector.

Major power plants proposed in Bangladesh are:

- Matarbari (1200 MW) Ultra Supercritical Coal Fired Power Plant
- Maitree Super Thermal Power Project at Rampal(1,320 MW), joint venture of NTPC Limited and Bangladesh Power Development Board
- Maheshkhali Coal Fired Power Generation Project (1,320 MW)
- Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant, Ishwardi (envisaged capacity of 2.4 GW)

17. **What are some important policy level changes implemented by the Government of Bangladesh?**

Apart from the decision to give priority to development of Economic Zones under BEZA, and the reconstitution of BIDA in 2016, the Government of Bangladesh has unveiled a new Industrial Policy in 2016 with the following objectives:

- Promote the private sector to lead the growth of industrial production and investment
- Attract foreign direct investment in both export and domestic market oriented industries
- Generate female employment in higher skill categories through special emphasis on skill development
- To ensure a process of industrialization which is environmentally sound and consistent with the resource endowment of the economy

Bangladesh has also recently published the Export & Import Policy (2015-2018) which outlines various schemes and policies for import and export within Bangladesh.

Additionally, the Seventh Five Year Plan (for the period 2015-16 to 2019-20) contains various individual policy level interventions for sectors like Infrastructure, Climate Change Mitigation, Agriculture, Healthcare, Poverty Alleviation, etc.
18. What are the procedures for foreign exchange transactions, including outward remittances?

The foreign exchange guidelines stipulated by the Bangladesh Bank can be accessed here: www.bangladeshbank.org.

19. Where can I get information on major international trade fairs/exhibitions in Bangladesh?

The Export Promotion Bureau, Bangladesh organizes Dhaka International Trade Fair in the month of January every year. In addition, there are private firms which regularly organize and promote trade exhibitions and fairs. For details, please visit the websites of the Export Promotion Bureau and the High Commission of India, Dhaka: www.epb.gov.bd; www.hcidhaka.gov.in.

20. What are some basic tips for Indian business visitors to Dhaka?

Trade Query: Interested business persons/firms may contact the High Commission of India, Dhaka for information on importers/manufacturers of various products in Bangladesh as well as any trade-related information with regard to Bangladesh. It is recommended that individual firms undertake due diligence and open line of credit as per normal international banking guidelines in order to avoid any commercial dispute at a later date.

Business Delegation: The High Commission assists Indian export organizations/agencies to organize visits of business delegations to Bangladesh, and participation in trade fairs/exhibitions. If complete information about the members of the delegation along with their business interests is made available, the High Commission would facilitate interactions with the relevant business organizations/associations/Chambers in Bangladesh.

Trade Disputes: The High Commission can assist Indian companies/individuals in amicably resolving their trade disputes with the Bangladesh companies. Indian companies are advised to send their representations in clear and concise language along with relevant documents to the High Commission.

Visa: Business visa is required to travel to Bangladesh. In order to work in Bangladesh, the company hiring you will need to seek work permit from the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority and work visa from the concerned Bangladesh authorities.
### Annexure I – List of Integrated Check Posts (ICPs)/Land Customs Stations (LCSs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Name of the ICP in India (along with the state)</th>
<th>Name of the Corresponding LCS in Bangladesh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Petrapole ICP, West Bengal</td>
<td>Benapole, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Agartala ICP, Tripura</td>
<td>Akhaura, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Name of the LCS in India (along with the state)</th>
<th>Name of the Corresponding LCS in Bangladesh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Agartala LCS, Tripura</td>
<td>Akhaura LCS, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Dhalaghat LCS (Agartala Division), Tripura</td>
<td>Kumarghat LCS, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Khowaigat LCS (Agartala Division), Tripura</td>
<td>Balla LCS, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Muhurighat LCS (Agartala Division), Tripura</td>
<td>Belonia LCS, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Srimantapur LCS (Agartala Division), Tripura</td>
<td>Bibirbazar LCS, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Karimganj Steamer &amp; Ferry Ghat, Assam</td>
<td>Zakiganj LCS, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Manu LCS (Karimganj Division), Tripura</td>
<td>Chatiapur LCS, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Old Raghunabazar LCS (Karimganj Division), Tripura</td>
<td>Betuli (Fultali) LCS, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Sutarkandi LCS (Karimganj Division), Assam</td>
<td>Sheola LCS, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Mahisasan Railway Station (Karimganj Division), Assam</td>
<td>Shabajpur LCS, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Bholaganj LCS, Meghalaya</td>
<td>Bholaganj LCS, Companyganj, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Borsora LCS (Shillong Division), Meghalaya</td>
<td>Borsora LCS, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>Dawki LCS (Shillong Division), Meghalaya</td>
<td>Tamabil LCS, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Shilabazar LCS (Shillong Division), Meghalaya</td>
<td>Chhatak, Sunamganj LCS, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>Rynok LCS, (Shillong Division), Meghalaya</td>
<td>Kalibari (Baganbari) LCS, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>Baghmara LCS, Meghalaya</td>
<td>Bijoypur LCS, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>Dalu LCS, (Dhubri Division), Meghalaya</td>
<td>Nakugaon LCS, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.</td>
<td>Dhubri Steamer and Ferry Ghat LCS, Assam</td>
<td>Rohumari LCS, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>Ghasuapara LCS (Dhubri Division)</td>
<td>Gobbrakura &amp; Koroitali LCS, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.</td>
<td>Golakganj LCS (Dhubri Division), Assam</td>
<td>Sonahat LCS, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21.</td>
<td>Mahendarganj LCS, (Dhubri Division), Meghalaya</td>
<td>Dhanua Kamalpur LCS, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22.</td>
<td>Mankachar LCS, (Dhubri Division), Assam</td>
<td>Rowmari LCS, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23.</td>
<td>Guwahati Steamerghat LCS, Assam</td>
<td>Rohumari LCS, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24.</td>
<td>Siligat LCS, (Guwahati Division), Assam</td>
<td>Rohumari LCS, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25.</td>
<td>Changrbandha LCS, West Bengal</td>
<td>Burimari, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bangladesh Missions in India

High Commission of Bangladesh:
Ep-39, Dr. Radhakrishnan Marg
Chanakyapuri, New Delhi-110 021, India
Tel: 0091-11-2412 1389-94
Fax: 0091-11-2687 8953
www.bhcdelhi.org
E-mail: bdhcdelhi@gmail.com

Deputy High Commission of Bangladesh, Kolkata:
9, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Sarani
Kolkata-700017, India
Tel: 0091-33-4012-7500
Fax: 0091-33-4012-7555
Email: mission.kolkata@mofa.gov.bd

Deputy High Commission of Bangladesh, Mumbai:
Jolly Maker Bungalow no. 8, Cuffe Parade
Mumbai-400005, India (Opposite World Trade Centre)
Tel: 0091-22-2218-0101
Fax: 0091-22-2218-1392
Email: mission.mumbai@mofa.gov.bd

Assistant High Commission, Agartala:
Kunjaban, Near Circuit House
Agartala, Tripura, India
Tel: 0091-381-232-4807, 222-5260
Fax: 0091-381-232-4807

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Name of the LCS in India (along with the state)</th>
<th>Name of the Corresponding LCS in Bangladesh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26.</td>
<td>Fulbari LCS, West Bengal</td>
<td>Banglabandha Land Port, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27.</td>
<td>Radhikapur LCS, West Bengal</td>
<td>Birol LCS, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28.</td>
<td>Gitalah LCS, West Bengal</td>
<td>Mogul Hatt, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29.</td>
<td>Ghojadanga LCS, West Bengal</td>
<td>Bhomra, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30.</td>
<td>Mahadipur LCS, West Bengal</td>
<td>Sinamasjid, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31.</td>
<td>Hilla LCS, West Bengal</td>
<td>Hili, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32.</td>
<td>Hemnagar LCS, West Bengal</td>
<td>Shaikheria, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33.</td>
<td>Gede LCS, West Bengal</td>
<td>Dorsona, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34.</td>
<td>Ranaghat LCS, West Bengal</td>
<td>Dorsona, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35.</td>
<td>Singabad LCS, West Bengal</td>
<td>Rohanpur, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36.</td>
<td>T.T. Shed, Khidderpore LCS, West Bengal</td>
<td>Khulna, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Select Hotels in Dhaka

Pan Pacific Sonargaon Dhaka
107 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue
Dhaka-1215
Bangladesh
Tel: +880 2 5502 8008 / +880 2 912 8008
Email: Bizcenter.dac@panpacific.com

Radisson Blu Dhaka Water Garden
Airport Road
Dhaka Cantonment
Dhaka-1206
Bangladesh
Tel: +880 2 983 4555
Fax: +880 2 983 4554 / 983 4504
Email: zahmed@radisson.com

Dhaka Regency Hotel & Resort Ltd.
Airport Road, Nikunja 2
Dhaka-1229, Bangladesh
+88 02 8900250-9
+88 02 8911479
Email: info@dhaarkegency.net

The Westin Dhaka
Main Gulshan Avenue
Plot-01, Road 45, Gulshan-2
Dhaka-1212
Bangladesh
Email: reservations.dhaka@westin.com

Amari Dhaka
47, Road No 41, Gulshan-2
Dhaka, Bangladesh
Tel: +880 2 5505 9620
Hotline +880 1 8784 9999

Hotel Purbani International Limited
1, Dilkusha C/A
Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh
Tel: +88-02-9552229
Fax: +88-02-9562313
Email: purbani@bangla.net

Hotel Sarina
Plot #27, Road #17
Banani C/A, Dhaka-1213
Bangladesh
Tel: +88 02 9821111
Fax: +88 02 982-1120
Email: sales@sarinahotel.com

Hotel Rajmoni Ishakha
89/3 VIP Road, Kakrail
Dhaka, Bangladesh
Tel: +880-2-8322426-9
Mobile: 00 88 01760004814
Fax: +880-2-8315369
Email: rajmoni@bdcom.com

Hotel Swiss Park Limited
House No. 62, Road No. 15
Block-C, Banani, Dhaka-1212
Tel: +880 2 9892707, 9889212
Mobile: +880 1738402832
Email: info@hotelswisspark.net

Best Western La Vinci Hotel
54, Kawran Bazar
Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh
Tel: 00880-2-919352, 9124401
Fax: 880-2-9131218
Email: lavinci@bol-online.com

Hotel Royal Park Residence
85, Road # 25A - Block-A, Banani
Dhaka-1213, Bangladesh
Tel: 00880-2-8815945-6
Fax: 00880-2-8815299
Email: aziz@royalpark-bd.com

Hotel De Crystal Crown
House #5, Road#23/A, Gulshan-1
Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh
Tel: 88-2-9845030, 9889069-70,
58813200, 9849678, 9890572,
01733000034, 01733000035
Fax: 9888448
Email: decrown@citechco.net

Hotel De Castle Limited
House 72, Block-B, Road 21
Banani, Dhaka-1213, Bangladesh
Tel: +880 2-55035233-35
Fax: 00880-2-55035236,
Email: info@hoteldecastlebd.com

Lakeshore Hotel
Road # 41, House # 46, Gulshan 2
Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh
Tel: +88 02 9859991, 9841786-92
+88 02 8859991, 8861787-92
Fax: +88 02 9840534, 9840519
Email: info@lakeshorehotel.com.bd

Hotel Aristocrat Inn Ltd
House # 12, Road # 68, 68/A
Gulshan-2, Dhaka-1212
Bangladesh
Tel: +88 02 9881014, 9892327
Fax: 00880-2-8821721
Email: ainn@citech-bd.com
Dhaka Mid Town Hotel
62, Gulshan Avenue, Road 130
Gulshan South C/A, Dhaka
Tel: 9895125, 8823698
Fax: 8823698
Email: midtown@bdmail.net

Hotel Eastern Residence
House#14, Road#27, Block#J
Banani, Dhaka-1213, Bangladesh
Tel: +88 02 9890337, 9888567, 9890301, 9890317, 9893342
Email: sales@easternresidence.com

Hotel Rose Wood Residence Limited
House-6/A, Road-13
Gulshan-1, Dhaka
Tel: 880-2-9880458, 9890636-39
+88 029890626-9,
+88 01713435351
Fax: 880-2-8823784, 9890629,
Email: info@rosewoodresidence.com

BRAC Centre Inn
75 Bir Uttam AK Khandakar Road
Dhaka, Bangladesh
Tel: 880-2-9886681-82
Fax: 880-2-9886683
Email: bracinn@bdmail.net

Pacific Inn
House -12, Road-18, Block-A
Banani, Dhaka-1213
Bangladesh
Tel: 00880-2-9884439, 9887391
Fax: 00880-2-9882326
Email: pacific@bol-online.com

Contact Details of Apex Trade/Industry Chambers and Government Institutions in Bangladesh

The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FBCCI)
60, Motijheel C/A
Dhaka-1000
Tel: 00880-2-9560102, 9560103
Fax: 00880-2-7176030, 9560588
Email: fbcci@bol-online.com
www.fbcci-bd.org

Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry (DCCI)
65-66, Motijheel C/A
Dhaka-1000
Tel: 00880-2-9552562, 9550075
Fax: 00880-2-9550103, 9560830
Email: dccil@bangla.net
www.dhakachamber.com

Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Chamber Building
122-124, Motijheel C/A
Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh
Tel: 00880-2-7161028-30
Fax: 00880-2-9565212, 9565211
Email: info@mccibd.org;
Secretary-General:
sg@mccibd.org;
President: president@mccibd.org
www.mccibd.org

Bangladesh Chamber of Industries
BCIC Bhaban
Road 3, Floor, 30-31
Dilkusha C/A
Dhaka-1000
Tel: 00880-2-9551669, 9569601, 9565345
Fax: 00880-2-9564170
Email: bci@bdcom.com

India-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce & Industry (IBCCI)
Rupayan Centre (16th Floor)
72, Mohakhali C/A
Dhaka-1212
Tel: 00880-2-8858527
Fax: 00880-2-9883121, 8817345
Email: info@indiabanglachamber.com
www.indiabanglachamber.com

Bangladesh Investment Development Authority
Jiban Bima Tower (19 Floor)
10, Dilkusha C/A
Dhaka
Tel: 00880-2-9551934, 9561430-1
Fax: 00880-2-9562312
Email: bida@bdmail.net
www.boi.gov.bd
Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority
Road No. 6, House 19/D
Dhanmondi R/A
Dhaka-1205
Tel: 00880-2-9670530, 8650058
Fax: 00880-2-8650063, 9661849
Email: chairman@bepza.org
www.epzbangladesh.org.bd

Ministry of Industry
91, Motijheel C/A
Dhaka-1000
Tel: 9567024
Fax: 9563553
Email: indsecy@moind.gov.bd
www.moind.gov.bd

Bangladesh Bank
Motijheel C/A
Dhaka-1000
Tel: 00880-2-7126101-20
Fax: 00880-2-9566212
Email: bb.cipc@bb.org.bd
www.bb.org.bd

Export Promotion Bureau
TCB Bhaban
1, Kawran Bazar (2nd, 4th Floor & 9th Floor)
Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh
Tel (PABX): +88-02-81800084, +88-02-8180087
Fax: +88-02-9119531
Email: info@epb.gov.bd
Website: www.epb.gov.bd

Bangladesh Tariff Commission
1st 12 storied Govt Office
Building (9th floor)
Segun Bagicha
Dhaka-1209
Tel: 8314542
Fax: 88-02-8315685
Email: info@btc.gov.bd
www.bdtaffillcom.org

Contact Details of Apex Trade and Industry Chambers in India

Head Offices
Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
The Mantosh Sondhi Centre
23 Institutional Area, Lodi Road
New Delhi-110003
Tel: 0091-11-24629994-7, 24653090
Fax: 0091-11-24601298, 24626149
Email: info@cii.in
www.cii.in

Eastern Offices
Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
6, Netaji Subhas Road
Kolkata 700001
Tel: 0091-33-22315571-74
Fax: 0091-33-22315577
Email: ciiocal@ciionline.org
www.cii.in

FICCI Eastern Regional Council
Dhunseri House
4-A, Woodburn Park
Kolkata-700020
Tel: 0091-33-23940580, 22878985
Fax: 0091-33-23878995
ficci@ficcierc.com,
Email: mousumi.ghose@ficci.com
www.ficci.com

Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI)
Federation House, Tansen Marg
New Delhi-110001
Tel: 0091-11-23738760-70,
23354285
Fax: 0091-11-23320714,
23763516, 23721504
Email: ficci@ficci.com
www.ficci.com

Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO)
“Niriyat Bhawan”
Rao Tula Ram Marg,
Opp. Army R & R Hospital,
New Delhi-110057
Tel: 0091-11-26150101-04
Fax: 0091-11-26150077, 26148194
Email: fieo@fieo.org,
www.fieo.org

Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO)
Express Tower (6 Floor)
42A, Shakespeare Sarani
Kolkata-700017
Tel: 0091-33-22831563-65
Fax: 0091-33-22805781,
22831568
Email: fieoer@vsnl.com,
ptsrinath@fieo.org
www.fieo.org

Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO)
Express Tower (6 Floor)
42A, Shakespeare Sarani
Kolkata-700017
Tel: 0091-33-22831563-65
Fax: 0091-33-22805781,
22831568
Email: fieoer@vsnl.com,
ptsrinath@fieo.org
www.fieo.org
ASOCHAM
ASOCHAM Corporate Office
1, Community Centre Zamrudpur
Kailash Colony
New Delhi-110048
Tel: 0091-11-465650555
Fax: 0091-11-46563481-82
Email: d.s.rawat@assocham.com
www.assocham.org

Indian Chamber of Commerce
ICC Tower
4 India Exchange Place
Kolkata-700001
Tel: 0091-33-22303242
Fax: 0091-33-22313380
Email: ceo@indianchamber.net
www.indianchamber.org

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry
Royal Exchange, 6 N.S. Road
Kolkata-700001
Tel: 0091-3322303711
22308794-97
Fax: 0091-33-22301289
Email:
bencham@bengalchamber.com
www.bengalchamber.com

Bengal National Chamber of Commerce & Industry
23 R.N. Mukherjee Road
Kolkata-700001
Tel: 0091-33-22482951-53
Fax: 0091-33-22487058,
22480387
Email: bncci@bncci.com
www.bncci.com

North East Federation on International Trade (NEFIT)
Dosi Bhawan, Paltan Bazar
Guwahati-781008
Tel: 0091-9435049636
Fax: 0091-361-2200663
Email: nefitrc@gmail.com
http://www.nefitindia.com

Tripura Chamber of Commerce & Industry
141, Motor Stand Road
(2nd Floor)
Agartala-799001
Tripura
Tel: 0091-381-2382732
Fax: 0091-381-2388087
Email: tcciatg@sancharnet.in
www.tirupurchamber.com