



# BEPZA Bulletin

A Quarterly Journal of the Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority, July -September 2017, Issue-44



- 3** PMO & BEPZA signed APA
- 4** BEPZA donates for flood affected people
- 4** Labour rights integral part of BD economy
- 4** IEPZ achieves PM's tree plantation award
- 5** UNIDO lauds the activities of BEPZA
- 6** BEPZA Chief's busy days in EPZs
- 7** BD to sign FTA with Sri Lanka & Turkey
- 8-9** BEPZA is a unique organization: PMO
- 10** Election held in 7 factories to form WWA
- 11** 7 plants to invest US\$ 78.61 M in EPZs
- 12** Seminar on trade finance process
- 13** National Mourning Day in a frame



## শেখ হাসিনা বিশেষ উদ্যোগ Sheikh Hasina Special Initiatives



শেখ হাসিনার প্রতিশ্রুতি  
নারী জাগরণে অগ্রগতি  
Sheikh Hasina's Commitment  
Progress in Women's Empowerment

শেখ হাসিনার নির্দেশ  
বিনিয়োগ বান্ধব বাংলাদেশ  
Sheikh Hasina's Instruction  
Investment Friendly Bangladesh

শেখ হাসিনার প্রতিশ্রুতি  
রপ্তানীর উর্ধ্বগতি  
Sheikh Hasina's Commitment  
Exports' Enhancement

শেখ হাসিনার নির্দেশ  
গড়ব সোনার বাংলাদেশ  
Sheikh Hasina's Vow  
To Build Sonar Bangladesh

সোনার বাংলাদেশ গড়ার প্রত্যয়ে বেপজা সাক্ষর্যের সাথে এগিয়ে চলেছে  
BEPZA is marching ahead successfully to build Sonar Bangladesh

### Publisher's Pen

BEPZA is marching ahead in consistent with its vision to become a significant contributor for economic development of Bangladesh. This bulletin is one of the medium by which we can share our success stories including a variety of events and activities.

PMO and BEPZA have signed APA to achieve target of the FY 2017-18. We have placed it in our lead page. BEPZA donated for flood affected people to PM's relief fund, PM's speech on labour rights integral part of BD economy, IEPZ gained PM's national tree plantation award are arranged in national page.

Principal Secretary to PMO and Senior Secretary to PMO spent their valuable time in Adamjee and Mongla EPZ. We have decorated our exclusive page on this matter where we depicted their various activities. Xtra page is ornamented with pictures of observing national mourning day in BEPZA as well as EPZs. Here we try to show all the events of that day.

Besides, BEPZA Chief's activities, visits of different dignitaries in EPZ, WWA election, seminar & training, meeting with investors etc. also placed in various pages of this journal.

We are thankful to all GM of Executive Office & Zones for their esteem support which helped PR Team to publish this bulletin on time.

### Public Relations Department



Chief Adviser	: Executive Chairman
Chief Editor	: General Manager (PR)
Sub-Editors	: Deputy Manager (PR)
Designer	: Graphics Designer (PR)
Photographer	: Audio Visual Officer (PR)
Circulation In charge	: Senior Librarian (PR)



Major General  
Mohd Habibur Rahman Khan, ndc, psc  
Executive Chairman, BEPZA

BEPZA, the name of reliability and progress, continues to grow as a source of pride for Bangladesh and as an excellent investment destination for investors. During the tenure of nearly a decade of the present government under the visionary leadership of the Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina the 8 EPZs of BEPZA found an immense success. It has made possible only due to keeping existence of the investment friendly policies by her pragmatic decision and practical steps from time to time be-fitting to the country's atmosphere and global scenario as well. It is not much saying but a true picture that in all 8 EPZs, achievement in all the parameters has been observed in last 8 years comparing previous periods.

The EPZs under BEPZA operate with highest efficiency and innovation, offer investment friendly atmosphere and maintain a spirit of industrial and infrastructural growth and economic emancipation that ensure investors getting what they strive for. It was not an easy way but had to face lot of obstacles to attain this position. Since we have overcome the odds and getting full support of the present government, I do believe, our coming days will be more glorious. To become a proud partner of this success I welcome investors from all over the world.



## PMO & BEPZA Signed APA to Achieve Target of 2017-18 FY



*Ms. Suraiya Begum, NDC, Senior Secretary of PMO and Major General Mohd Habibur Rahman Khan, ndc, psc, the Executive Chairman of BEPZA signing the APA*

Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA) have signed Annual Performance Agreement (APA) for the Fiscal Year 2017-18. This agreement was signed on 04 July 2017 in presence of Mr. Md. Abul Kalam Azad, Principal Coordinator (SDG Affairs), PMO and Dr. Kamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury, Principal Secretary of PMO in order to create accountability of the organization determining annual targets.

Ms. Suraiya Begum, NDC, Senior Secretary, PMO and Major General Mohd Habibur Rahman Khan, ndc, psc, the Executive Chairman of BEPZA signed the agreement on behalf of their respective organizations at conference room of the Prime Minister's Office.

BEPZA set 55 performance indicators against five strategic objectives i.e. promotion of local & foreign investment, boost up export, employment & workers welfare, improvement of services, transfer of technology with four mandatory objectives in the APA of 2017-18 FY. The number of indicators was 48 in the last APA i.e. FY 2016-17.

Mentionable, BEPZA ranked highest among the organizations under PMO in accomplishing targets of the Annual Performance Agreement for the FY 2014-15 and 2015-16 expecting same rank for FY 2016-17 also.

Bringing of US\$ 275 million investment, operation of 8 new industries, export of US\$ 6000 million and generation of 15000 new employments is the expected achievement of BEPZA put in the performance agreement of 2017-18 FY.

The notable part of the agreement is starting of development work of BEPZA Economic Zone in Mirsarai depending on preparation and approval of Development Project Proposal (DPP). Allotment of plots to the investors removing the old structure of mill area-2 of Adamjee EPZ has been included in the agreement as challenge.

This agreement has been signed for the fourth time to encourage the bodies under PMO to ensure an efficient, effective & dynamic administrative system through establishment of good governance at all levels of administration and to evaluate the qualitative and quantitative activities of the organizations. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed on 30 June 2014 for the first time on the above-mentioned purpose.

The organizations other than BEPZA under the PMO i.e. Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (BEZA), Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA), Public Private Partnership Authority (PPPA), NGO Affairs Bureau and Ashrayan Prakalpa have also signed the Annual Performance Agreement for the FY 2017-18.

Among others Mr. Md. Abdul Halim, Director General of Government Innovation Unit (GIU), PMO. Mr. Zillur Rahman, NDC, Member (Investment Promotion), Mrs. Nazma Binte Alamgir, General Manager (Public Relations), Mr. Md. Ahsan Kabir, General Manager (Investment Promotion) of BEPZA and high officials of other organizations were present in the signing ceremony.



## BEPZA Stands Beside Flood Affected People: Donation to PM's Relief Fund

BEPZA donated one-day salary of its employees equivalent to Tk. 5 lac 86 thousand to Prime Minister's Relief & Welfare Fund for helping flood affected people. Executive Chairman of BEPZA Major General Mohd Habibur Rahman Khan, ndc, psc handed over the cheque to the Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on 30 August 2017 at Prime Minister's Office. Principal Secretary of PMO Dr. Kamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury was present during this time.

BEPZA always comes forward to help distressed people along with playing role in attracting local & foreign investment, increase of export through product diversification and generation of employment. Mentionable, the investors of BEPZA have donated Tk. 6 crore to Prime Minister's Relief & Welfare Fund and Bangabandhu Memorial Trust to help flash flood affected people of Haor as a part of CSR.



*Executive Chairman of BEPZA handing over cheque to the Honourable Prime Minister*

## Labour Rights Integral Part of BD Economy: Prime Minister

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said her government has taken the issue of labour rights as an integral part of the economy and society. "We are looking to the protection of labour rights as an integral part of the economy and society as our commitment for the protection of human rights and labour rights remain steadfast," she told a high-level meeting of Global Deal for Decent Work and Inclusive Growth on 18 September 2017 in New York, USA.

Pointing out the programs for promoting the Global Deal for Decent Work in collaboration with Sweden, the Prime Minister said Bangladesh believes that if the overall socio-economic development is ensured, it will eventually enhance decent jobs and labour rights. She said the Bangladesh government has started implementing the 'Better Work Program' under which a massive training program is going on under the Social Dialogue and Harmonious Industrial Relations Project. The Prime Minister said the 'Tripartite Consultative Council' dedicated for addressing the RMG sector labour issues has been established.

Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Lofven, ILO Director-General Guy Ryder and Secretary General of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Angel Gurría also spoke on the occasion. *Source: The Financial Express*

## IEPZ Achieves PM's National Award for Plantation



*General Manager (PR), BEPZA receiving crest on behalf of IEPZ from Minister & Deputy Minister for Environment & Forest*

Ishwardi Export Processing Zone (IEPZ), one of the eight EPZs under BEPZA, has achieved 'Prime Minister's National Award for Tree Plantation-2016' in recognition of outstanding contribution in greenery industrialization concept. Minister for Environment and Forest Mr. Anwar Hossain Manju and Deputy Minister Mr. Abdullah Al Islam Jacob handed over the award on 16 July 2017 at the Department of Environment in Agargaon, Dhaka. Mrs. Nazma Binte Alamgir, General Manager (Public Relations) of BEPZA received the crest, certificate and prize money on behalf of the Ishwardi EPZ.

Ishwardi EPZ obtained 2nd place in Division/Department/Sector Corporation/Institution category. IEPZ planted 27,300 saplings of various species i.e. forestry, fruit, herbal/medicinal, decorative, native extinct trees etc. during 2010-11 to 2014-15 FY in order to keep environment balance and enhancing beautification. Mentionable, Mongla EPZ achieved 2nd prize at the same category in 2015 for the contribution of tree plantation.

BEPZA has taken various steps as a part of green initiative in EPZs. Tree plantation is one of them. Besides, in order to protect the environment BEPZA implemented some steps i.e. setting up of Central Effluent Treatment Plant, solar panel, solar street lights, installation of LED light etc. which are contributing in turning the EPZs as Green Zone.



## UNIDO Lauds the Activities of BEPZA

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) praised the production system, international standard products, environment friendly activities of EPZs above all the role of BEPZA in socio-economic development of Bangladesh. Director General (DG) of UNIDO Mr. Li Yong made these appreciations during his visit in Dhaka EPZ on 7 September 2017. Major General Mohd Habibur Rahman Khan, ndc, psc, the Executive Chairman of BEPZA thanked the UNIDO Chief for visiting Dhaka EPZ. He handed over a crest to the UNIDO DG.



*BEPZA Chief handing over a crest to the UNIDO DG*

Mr. Tanvir Hossain, General Manager - DEPZ highlighted the overall scenario of EPZ as well as BEPZA through PowerPoint presentation. Mentioning Bangladesh EPZs as the 'Bonanza for Investors' he said that investors from 38 countries have set up industries in the EPZs and invested US\$ 4.37 billion. He said, around half a million workers have been employed in 464 operating enterprises of 8 EPZs under BEPZA. GM, DEPZ said the enterprise of EPZs have exported goods worth US\$ 60 billion and contributing around 20% to the national export every year. Industrial friendly peaceful investment climate is the main attraction of EPZs and the key strength of EPZs is amicable cohesive teamwork & Worker-Management-Owner synergy, he added.

Later, Mr. Yong visited Paxar (Bangladesh) Limited factory. He keenly observed the production system and impressed to see the international standard products. UNIDO Chief lauded the investment friendly congenial atmosphere prevailing in the zone. Nazma Binte Alamgir, GM (Public Relations) of BEPZA and other high officials of Dhaka EPZ were present in the program.



*Executive Chairman, BEPZA handing over orientation certificate to a new employee*

## Job Orientation Course for Newly Appointed Employees

BEPZA organized Job Orientation & Foundation Course for newly appointed 16 Sub-Assistant Engineer and a Compounder. The course was held on 10-14 September 2017 at BEPZA Complex where they acquainted with Vision, Mission, Objectives, Activities and Functions of different departments of BEPZA and EPZs as well.

In the closing ceremony, the Executive Chairman of BEPZA Major General Mohd Habibur Rahman Khan, ndc, psc congratulated the new employees for being proud member of BEPZA family. He requested them to work hard for the betterment of the organization. Later, he distributed certificates to the participants.

## BEPZA & Investors Meeting

**Congenial Atmosphere :** BEPZA Chief Major General Mohd Habibur Rahman Khan presided over a meeting with investors of EPZs regarding workplace atmosphere & improvement of safety standard, labour welfare and various dispute between workers and management etc. on 30 July 2017.

Executive Chairman of BEPZA said Bangladesh EPZ Authority always looks after the workers and investors interests. BEPZA wants to jointly work with the investors to keep the zone investment-friendly.



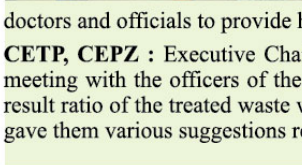
*BEPZA Chief exchanging views with Investors & Workers Representatives*



*BEPZA & Investors talking on EPZs' working environment in a meeting*

**Labour Issues :** BEPZA always tries to maintain congenial peaceful harmonious working environment in the Export Processing Zones.

In this regard a tripartite meeting was held among management of Bangladesh EPZ Authority, investors and workers representatives on 13 August 2017 at BEPZA Executive Office where they discussed about Industrial Relation matters, electoral process & formation of WWA in the EPZs factories etc.



## BEPZA Chief's Busy Days in EPZs

**BEPZA Public School, KEPZ:** Major General Mohd Habibur Rahman Khan, Executive Chairman of BEPZA visited site of the West Colony Primary School, BEPZA Public School & College at Karnaphuli EPZ (KEPZ) on 17 September 2017. BEPZA Chief gave directives to take necessary initiative for full fledged better education facilities including Pre-Primary section in West Colony Primary School of KEPZ. The land belonging to this school should be taken possession from outsiders as early as possible, he added. General Manager of Chittagong EPZ & Karnaphuli EPZ and Head Master of BEPZA Public School & College, KEPZ accompanied him during that time.

**NARI Project, KEPZ :** Executive Chairman also visited NARI Project at Karnaphuli EPZ. He wanted to know the present status & future of this project. He also gave suggestion to deploy more trainers from northern part of the country so that participants feel comfort to share their daily experience. Md. Hafizur Rahman, GM (MIS) & PD of NARI Project conducted a discussion session where explained the participants regarding the background of creating NARI Project. Major General Habib instructed to look after the assets of training institution properly. Project Officer of Management Advisor and Trainers of NARI Project of KEPZ participated in the meeting.

**WTP, KEPZ :** BEPZA Chief visited Water Treatment Plant at Karnaphuli EPZ on the same day. Mr. Syed Arshed Reza, Chairman and other officials of M/s. Sigma Engineers Ltd. gave an orientation about the operation of Water Treatment Plant. Member (Engineer), GM (Maintenance) and DGM (Intelligence) of BEPZA, Superintending Engineer of KEPZ, Security Consultant Cum Executive of CEPZ & KEPZ were with him while visited KEPZ.

**Hospital, DEPZ :** BEPZA Chief physically examined the medical facilities for workers and employees at hospital of Dhaka EPZ on 7 September 2017. He was informed various issues like healthcare facilities, medical equipments, medicine and so on. He instructed doctors and officials to provide highest service to the patient.

**CETP, CEPZ :** Executive Chairman of BEPZA visited Waste Treatment Plant, Chittagong EPZ and meeting with the officers of the company on 16 & 17 September 2017. He enquired about lab testing result ratio of the treated waste water per day. He talked with the officials about operational system and gave them various suggestions regarding this.



*BEPZA Chief highlights the success of EPZs in the summit*

## Executive Chairman Attends International SEZ Summit

The Executive Chairman of BEPZA Major General Mohd Habibur Rahman Khan, ndc, psc participated in the 11th International SEZ & Industrial Parks Summit at New Delhi, India on 26 July 2017.

In the summit, BEPZA Chief delivered a presentation on Investment Opportunities in Bangladesh where he highlighted EPZs' success story. He gave an online interview focused on EPZs of Bangladesh truly Bonanza for Investors. He also mentioned that the EPZs of Bangladesh is contributing around 20% of the country's export. The Associated Chambers of Commerce & Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) organized the summit.

## BEPZA-ILO Talk on Workforce

Mr. Srinivas B Reddy Country Director, International Labour Organization (ILO), Bangladesh praised the role of BEPZA for improving labour issues in a meeting 17 August 2017 at BEPZA Complex, Dhaka.

Executive Chairman of BEPZA Major General Mohd Habibur Rahman Khan, ndc, psc informed him about BEPZA's overall scenarios. They talked about how to improve labour law, rights & regulations and compliances of the workers.



*BEPZA Chief discusses with ILO Country Director on workers issues*



## Bangladesh to sign FTA with Sri Lanka & Turkey

Bangladesh and Sri Lanka agreed to sign a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) by this year, aiming to further strengthen and institutionalize bilateral trade cooperation between the two nations. While a MoU for FTA has signed with Turkey as a part of signing final agreement.



The decision of signing FTA with Sri Lanka was finalized at the official bilateral talks between Sri Lankan President Mr. Maithripala Sirisena and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the Prime Minister's Office on 14 July 2017 during visit of Sri Lankan President in Bangladesh. The two leaders asked the officials concerned to complete all necessary steps promptly regarding the FTA.



During briefing reporters after the meeting, *FTA with Sri Lanka finalize in the official bilateral talks during visit of Sri Lankan President* Foreign Secretary M Shahidul Haque said the FTA with Sri Lanka would be Bangladesh's first such deal with any country and a necessary study would be done prior to signing of the agreement. He said if the FTA is inked, it would help Bangladesh enter such deals with other countries. There were some FTAs in the pipeline, he added.

Few days later of the decision of signing FTA with Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Turkey signed MoU for FTA on 23 August 2017 at the Turkey-Bangladesh Business Forum-2017. Speaking at the forum, Commerce Minister Tofail Ahmed said, "Bangladesh is very interested to sign the FTA with Turkey which will increase trade and commerce. Since the tariff rate is very high for Bangladeshi products entering into the Turkish market, I hope, the FTA will open a new window of economic opportunities for two countries."



The bilateral trade between the two countries is currently worth US\$ 843.93 million. The signing of the FTA would help boost the export of RMG, pharmaceuticals, frozen fish, dry food, jute and jute products, leather, plastic and ceramic products, ship building and light engineering products to Turkey. *Source : The Daily Star & The Tribune*

### BB Regulations for EPZs' Companies NBR SRO for EPZ Tobacco Plants

Bangladesh Bank (BB) has relaxed foreign exchange regulations for EPZs enterprises to bring uniformity in regulations between enterprises of EPZs and EZs.

"Equity from foreign shareholders and authorized loan received in foreign currency from external sources may be credited in FC accounts of 'Type A' and 'Type B' enterprises of EPZs," said a BB circular on 16 July 2017. 'Type C' enterprises of EPZs may obtain foreign exchange from Authorized Dealers (ADs) to settle obligations for importing capital machinery.

Similarly, 'Type B' enterprises may convert their local equity or authorized loan received in local currency into foreign exchange to settle obligations for importing capital machinery if equity or authorized foreign loan received from abroad falls short to meet such obligations. *Source: Independent*

The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has withdrawn export duty on tobacco products for the EPZs factories. The NBR issued a statutory regulatory order on 4 September 2017 withdrawing 25% tax, which was imposed in the budget for the current fiscal year 2017-2018, on export of tobacco products. The exemption will come into force from 1 July 2017 with retrospective effect.

Officials of the NBR said that the decision was taken in line with the BEPZA Act-1980 which says export by the factories located at the EPZs will be tax free. Currently, only US-based Pace Tobacco Industries (BD) Limited is producing and exporting tobacco products from the Mongla EPZ. *Source: New Age*

### BD Becomes the Latest Destination for Japanese Companies

With Japanese companies discouraged by the wage hike in China, it is working in favour of Bangladesh. Japanese companies are now in the lookout for cheaper production bases in Asia and has started landing in Bangladesh due to the country's low labour costs, reports the Bloomberg.

According to Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), the number of Japanese companies working in Bangladesh has more than tripled since 2008, reaching 253 as of May 2017. However, the number is still less than that in China or Thailand but the presence of Japanese companies in Bangladesh is increasing at a much faster pace because the country offers the lowest labour costs in the Asia-Pacific region.

Mari Tanaka, an official at Japan External Trade Organization's Overseas Research Department, said, "Labour costs there are lower compared to Japan and other East Asian countries, while it's possible to hire a large number of young labourers." A Jetro survey states that among the 19 countries in Asia Pacific, Bangladeshi workers received the lowest average monthly wage from Japanese companies, below their counterparts in Sri Lanka, Laos and Myanmar.

*Source: The New Nation*



# BEPZA is a Unique Organization: PMO

Dr. Kamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury, Principal Secretary to Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said, 'BEPZA is a unique organization. Now BEPZA is a brand in the global business arena. The success of BEPZA led the government to establish Economic Zone in the country. BEPZA contributes a lot to implement SDG and Vision-2021 and 2041'. He made these comments during visiting Adamjee EPZ on 09 September 2017 at Narayanganj.

Major General Mohd Habibur Rahman Khan, ndc, psc, Executive Chairman of BEPZA informed the Principal Secretary that, to address the need of the time and for economic perspective it was decided to turn Adamjee Jute Mills into a new EPZ.

During his visit Principal Secretary observed the security surveillance activities at the CCTV monitoring room of Zone Office which set up to strengthen security. He expressed his satisfaction on overall security system. Later, he inaugurated the newly constructed Zone Services Complex of Adamjee EPZ and planted a sapling on the premises. The Principal Secretary also released fish fry in the pond of Adamjee EPZ.

At the end, Principal Secretary went round Bangladesh-Romania joint venture world famous suit manufacturing factory M/s Universal Menswear Ltd. and fully foreign owned Indian diamond jewelry company M/s Renaissance Jewelry BD Ltd. He impressed to observe the working activities of AEPZ in extinct Adamjee jute mill.



Principal Secretary and Senior Secretary to the Prime Minister's Office praise the activities of BEPZA in industrialization through attracting investment, export enhancement, product diversification and socio economic development of the country during their visit at Adamjee & Mongla EPZ.



Ms. Suraiya Begum, NDC, Senior Secretary to PMO visited Mongla EPZ on 17 August 2017 and lauded the visionary decision of the Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for setting up EPZs in the remote area of northern & southern regions has changed the pace of living of those areas.

She said, 'BEPZA is a pioneer to boost up export & increase investment of the country and it is a unique place where a lot of people engaged in economic activities through this Mongla EPZ.' She also said EPZ is a brand in global arena for its environment and investment friendly atmosphere.

She hoped the investors of MEPZ will be privileged to manage their business through the Padma Bridge & Asian Highway. Fully function of Pyra Port, establishment of rail links to Mongla, operation of proposed Air Port would change the economic scenario of this region.



Principal Secretary impresses to see jewelry production



Universal Menswear briefing overall scenarios of the company to Principal Secretary



Senior Secretary eagerly to know the manufacturing process of heating pad

### Quick look on Adamjee EPZ

It was a wise decision to hand over the total area and assets of the Adamjee Jute Mills to BEPZA for establishing a new EPZ to generate more employment, poverty alleviation and to make the Jute Mills area once again operative and functional in the manifold economic activities. The foreign and local investors are comparatively more interested to invest in the EPZs nearby Dhaka & Chittagong because of the availability of sufficient utility services and infrastructural support. India, Japan, China, USA, South Korea, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Netherland, Spain, Canada, France, Br. Virgin Island, Turkey, Ukraine, Singapore, Germany, Kuwait, Romania, Pakistan and Bangladesh have been started their industries in 245.12 acres of AEPZ for producing electronics & electrical items, garments & garments accessories, footwear & leather, textile & knitting, car seat trim cover and jewelry etc. Presently 54,372 workers are working in 51 operating industries of Adamjee EPZ with the cumulative investment of US\$ 434.04 million & export US\$ 3079.51 million.

### Quick look on Mongla EPZ

At the beginning, people of Mongla area were used to cultivation and fishing. It was a neglected area; but Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has established Mongla EPZ in 255.41 acres land at the southern region for accelerating the economic growth, increasing working activities in this lagging area. Now Mongla EPZ is the shining example of how a prudent decision of the Honourable Prime Minister can change the life style of a region. India, Japan, China, USA, Thailand, Italy and Bangladesh have been started their industry for producing electronics & electrical items, tent, wig, luggage & bag, jute & metal products, garments accessories and agro products. The cumulative employment stands at 2,266 nos. and operational industries reached to 22 in MEPZ with investment of US\$ 50.43 million & export US\$ 498.64 million.

Later she visited Japanese car seat & soft electronic heating pad factory M/s Kotobuki Bangladesh Ltd. and USA owned only one cigarette and cigar company M/s Pace Tobacco Industries BD Ltd. She expressed her warm feelings to observe the working environment and product quality.



Senior Secretary visits only one tobacco factory in EPZs





## Election Held in Seven Factories to form WWA

According to “The EPZ Workers’ Welfare Association and Industrial Relations Act, 2010”, the EPZs’ enterprises arrange election to form Workers Welfare Association (WWA). Elected Representatives perform as CBA regarding interest of the workers. In order to form WWA, referendum and Executive Council election held in seven factories of Chittagong & Comilla EPZ during July-September 2017.



*Workers of three factories of Chittagong and Comilla EPZ are voting in the election held for the formation of WWA*

### Executive Council election held in four factories

The workers of Papella Ltd. on 27 July 2017, Hana Plastic (BD) Ltd. on 24 August 2017 and AL-Hamedi Textile Ltd. on 24 September 2017 elected their new representatives. Election held in these three factories of CEPZ due to expiration of the tenure of the earlier Executive Council of WWA. The workers of Nassa Spinning Ltd. of Comilla EPZ elected their representatives for the first time. The representatives of the five members Executive Council of WWA declared elected as unopposed.

### Referendum held in three factories

Referendum held in Nassa Spinners Limited of Comilla EPZ on 31 July 2017 in order to form WWA where 86.04% workers voted in favour of formation of WWA. On the other hand, 91.62% workers of Yogotex Fabrics Limited on 2 August 2017 and 81.37% workers of Soorty Textiles (BD) Limited on 24 July 2017 voted against formation of WWA. As a result, no further referendum shall be held in these two factories of Comilla EPZ until expiration of one year.

## Training on Financial Management for Workers of EPZs

A training program on financial management to create awareness of EPZs’ workers held in Chittagong & Dhaka EPZ. BEPZA and Management & Resources Development Initiative (MRDI) jointly organized this Training of Trainers (ToT) program to create a trainer group, later on, who will train up the workers on financial management.

22 Social Counselors of Chittagong and Karnaphuli EPZ participated in this ToT program held in CEPZ on 9 & 10 July 2017. Training on same topic also held in DEPZ on 25 & 26 July 2017 where 29 Social Counselors & Industrial Relations Officers of Dhaka and Adamjee EPZ participated.

In the program, Mr. Md. Ashraf Kabir, Chief Engineer & Project Director Capacity Building of BEPZA called for greater engagement of the corporate sector in CSR activities that directly address the welfare of the EPZ workers. Mrs. Nazma Binte Alamgir, GM (Public Relations) appreciating the initiative said, socio economic development is one of the key priorities of BEPZA and inclusion of workers in the financial system through proper training is a part of that effort. She hoped that all the workers of the country will be benefitted whether such kind of activities are adopted in large scale.



*BEPZA & MRDI officials pose with the participants of the training and trainers after completion of the workshop program held in DEPZ*

GM (PR) stressed on the advocacy with the Bangladesh Bank and the banking sector for more worker friendly policies. She said, savings is a tool of poverty alleviation and the trend of savings of workers will accelerate in building middle-income country by 2021 and development by 2041 as promised by the Honourable Prime Minister.

Mr. Hasibur Rahman, Executive Director of MRDI thanked BEPZA & HSBC for coming forward and joining hands. He hoped that the Social Counselors of EPZs would disseminate the gathered knowledge to the workers properly.

Mr. Akhter Alam Mostafi, GM of KEPZ, Mr. Khorshid Alam, GM of CEPZ and Mr. Tanvir Hossain, GM of DEPZ wishes success of this program and hoped to spread out the trend of savings among the workers.



## Bangladeshi Deshbandhu Group will Invest US\$ 53.77 M to set up RMG Plant in Uttara EPZ

Bangladeshi company M/s. Deshbandhu Textile Mills Limited will invest US\$ 53.77 million to establish a readymade garments industry in Uttara EPZ. They will produce annually 27.6 million pcs Denim & Woven Pants. 3713 Bangladeshi nationals will get employment opportunity in this factory.

An agreement to this effect has signed between Mr. Zillur Rahman, NDC, Member (Investment Promotion) of BEPZA and Brigadier General (Retd.) Sarwar Jahan Talukder, ndc, psc, Adviser of M/s. Deshbandhu Textile Mills Ltd. signed the agreement on behalf of their respective organizations in Dhaka on 23 July 2017.



*Member (IP), BEPZA & Adviser, Deshbandhu Textile Mills Ltd. exchanging documents after signing the deal*

Major General Mohd Habibur Rahman Khan, ndc, psc, Executive Chairman, Mr. Md. Mosaddeque Ali, Member (Engineering), Mr. Md. Mizanur Rahman, Member (Finance), Mr. Md. Nabirul Islam, Secretary, Mrs. Nazma Binte Alamgir, General Manager (Public Relations) and Mr. Md. Ahsan Kabir, General Manager (Investment Promotion) of BEPZA and Mr. Golam Mostafa, Chairman of Deshbandhu Textile Mills were present at the signing ceremony.

### US\$ 16.78 M South Korean Invest in CEPZ

Two South Korean companies have chosen Chittagong EPZ (CEPZ) to invest US\$ 16.78 million with job creation for 5522 Bangladeshi nationals.

**M/s HKD Uni-Tech Limited** will invest US\$ 12.58 million to establish garments industry in CEPZ. This fully foreign owned company will produce annually 13.54 million pieces of woven & knit garments, denim items and others. They will create employment opportunity for 5416 persons. Member (Investment Promotion) of BEPZA and Chief Operating Officer of HKD Uni-Tech Limited signed the agreement on 26 July 2017.

**M/s ERE Plus (BD) Ltd.** is also going to set up garments accessories industry in CEPZ. They will invest US\$ 4.2 million with annual production capacity of 250 million meters of webbing belt, pp yarn, shock cord, thread strings & elastic band. 106 Bangladeshi nationals will get job in this company. BEPZA and M/s ERE Plus (BD) Ltd. inked the agreement on 28 September 2017.

### BD Investment US\$ 8.06 M to Establish 4 Plants in Different EPZs

4 Bangladeshi companies are going to set up their manufacturing unit in Uttara, Karnaphuli and Mongla EPZ with investment of US\$ 8.06 million.

**M/s Padma Spinning & Composite Ltd.** will invest US\$ 3.47 million for setting up net manufacturing industry in Uttara EPZ. 1855 Bangladeshi nationals will produce annually 64000 metric ton fishing & agricultural net, fish processing net, mosquito, food processing & building construction safety net, rope garden net & hanger etc. Mr. Mohammad Abdul Quiem, Managing Director of M/s. Padma Spinning & Composite Ltd. signed the agreement with BEPZA on 13 August 2017.

**M/s Star Packaging & Accessories Ltd.** is going to establish a garments accessories company in Uttara EPZ. This company will invest US\$ 2.41 million to produce annually 21 lac metric ton poly bag, gum tape, hanger, hang tag, photo card and so on. They will create job opportunity for 1415 Bangladeshi nationals. In this regard BEPZA and M/s Star Packaging & Accessories Ltd. signed an agreement on 13 August 2017.

**M/s Deshbandhu Packaging Limited** is going to invest US\$ 0.92 million in Mongla EPZ. 82 persons will produce 35000 ton tin container, pet bottle, jar and pouch annually. An agreement to this effect has signed between Member (IP) of BEPZA and Adviser of M/s. Deshbandhu Packaging Limited on 26 July 2017.

**M/s Sigma Engineers Ltd.** will set up their plant in Karnaphuli EPZ with investment of US\$ 1.26 million. This company will supply 50 lac gallon treated water per day and create employment opportunity for 40 Bangladeshi nationals. An agreement has been signed between Mr. Zillur Rahman, NDC, Member (Investment Promotion) of BEPZA and Mr. Ahmed Shamim Hossain, Executive Director of M/s. Sigma Engineers Ltd. on 29 August 2017.



*Participants pose with the discussants and guests after ending the seminar on Trade Finance Process*

Uttara, Ishwardi & Mongla EPZ of northern & southern part of the country i.e. seven years tax holiday, reduced rate for land and standard factory building, logistic support, connectivity with sea, rail, road & air, diversified goods produced in those three EPZs. He requested the investors to invest in Uttara, Mongla & Ishwardi EPZ due to scarcity of plots in the EPZs of Dhaka and Chittagong regions. Moreover, he informed the investors regarding BEPZA Economic Zone to be operated by BEPZA in Mirsarai, Chittagong and urged them to avail the opportunity of investment.

In the welcome speech Mr. Alamgir Morshed, Managing Director & Head of Finance of SCB and Mr. Apurbo Jain, Managing Director of Transaction Banking thanked BEPZA for arranging the seminar on trade finance process. They hoped that such kind of seminar would be beneficial for the investors in operating business. Some officials of the Bank discussed in detail on relaxed foreign exchange guidelines, fiscal & non-fiscal incentives for investors in EPZ, trade payment methods & process, documents required in import & export transactions from EPZ, common discrepancies in trade & how to avoid them etc.

Around 150 participants including investors of Dhaka EPZ and their representatives took part in the seminar. Among others, Mrs. Nazma Binte Alamgir, General Manager (Public Relations) including high officials of DEPZ was present in the seminar.

Dhaka Export Processing Zone (DEPZ) and Standard Chartered Bank (SCB) jointly organized a seminar on Trade Finance Process for Investors of EPZ. Common discrepancies in trade documents, Foreign exchange guidelines, International Commercial Terms (INCOTERMS)-2010, documents related to import and export transactions from EPZ etc. focused in the seminar held in Dhaka EPZ on 18 July 2017.

In the inaugural speech Mr. Tanvir Hossain, General Manager of DEPZ thanked the existing investors for choosing EPZ for the investment. He described the special facilities prevailing in

## BD's RMG Export Growth Highest among Top 8 Countries

Bangladesh registered the highest growth in apparel exports in 2016 among top eight clothing exporters of the world, according to the latest statistics of the World Trade Organization (WTO). The growth rate was 6.07 percent in the past year and the share of Bangladeshi apparel in the world export market also increased to 6.36 percent in 2016 from 5.9 percent in 2015 and 5.1 percent in 2014.

China, the top exporter, registered a negative growth rate of 7.0 percent in the past year and its market share declined significantly to 36.4 percent from 39.3 percent in 2015. Among the top 10 exporters, Cambodia, however, registered slightly higher growth (6.10 percent) than Bangladesh in 2016 while the share of the country was only 1.42 percent in the global market.

The World Trade Statistical Review 2017, released by the WTO on 25 July 2017, unveiled this information. According to the statistical review, Bangladesh ranked as the third largest clothing exporters after China and the European Union (EU) in 2016. The WTO ranked the EU as the second largest clothing exporter, but did not provide segregate data on clothing export status of EU member countries. Thus, Bangladesh may be considered the second largest exporter of clothing. *Source: The Financial Express*

## New Executive Committee of BEPZIA

Bangladesh EPZ Investors' Association (BEPZIA) has elected its new Executive Committee. Md. Nasir Uddin, Managing Director, Pacific Jeans Ltd. of Chittagong EPZ has been elected Chairman new committee and Takashi Miyata, Managing Director, YKK BD Pte Ltd of Dhaka EPZ elected Sr. Vice Chairman. M A Matin, Chairman of FCI BD Ltd. and Zareef Cader, Director of Talisman Ltd. of Dhaka EPZ elected Vice Chairman and Treasurer consecutively.

Mr. Kihak Sung, Chairman & CEO of Youngone group was the Chairman of previous Committee. Mentionable, BEPZIA is a forum for EPZ investors in promoting their interest to ensure smooth operation of their industries and act as a representative body to help BEPZA / Government in formulating policies favorable for the smooth operation of EPZ industries.

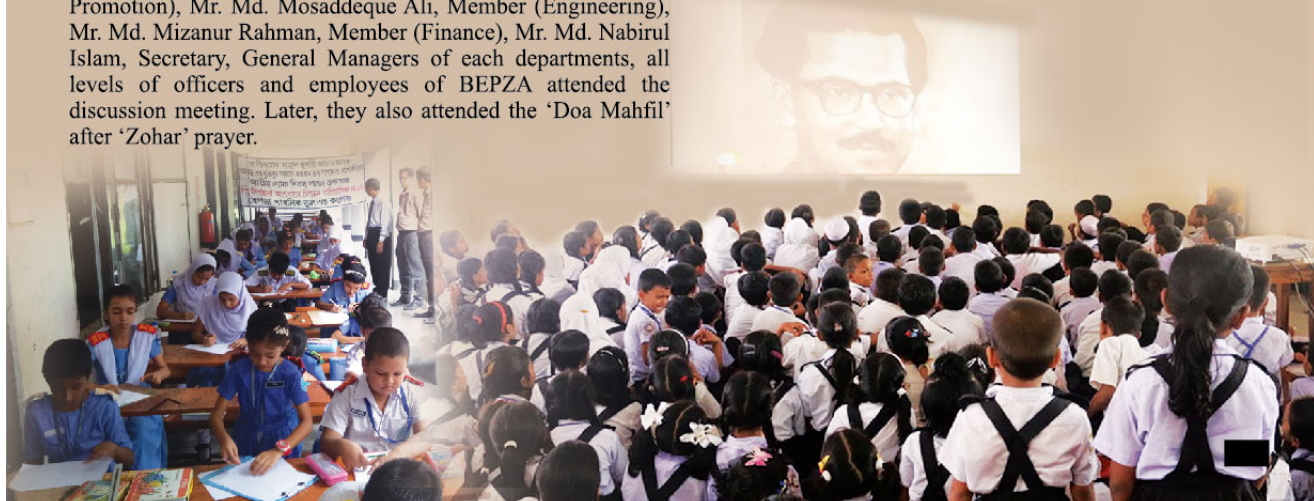
## National Mourning Day in a Frame

BEPZA organized a discussion meeting, documentary film show and Doa Mahfil on 15 August 2017 at the BEPZA Executive Office, Dhaka to observe National Mourning Day. This program was arranged along with kept national flag half-mast in respect of the 42nd martyrdom anniversary of the great Architecture of Independence and the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and his family members who embraced martyrdom.



BEPZA planned out elaborate program to observe the day. At the beginning, BEPZA Chief looked around the exhibition of photos and books on the life of Bangabandhu at executive office. After that, life and political activities of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu was discussed in details and screening a documentary film that created on his life and work. Major General Mohd Habibur Rahman Khan, ndc, psc, Executive Chairman, Mr. Zillur Rahman NDC, Member (Investment Promotion), Mr. Md. Mosaddeque Ali, Member (Engineering), Mr. Md. Mizanur Rahman, Member (Finance), Mr. Md. Nabirul Islam, Secretary, General Managers of each departments, all levels of officers and employees of BEPZA attended the discussion meeting. Later, they also attended the 'Doa Mahfil' after 'Zohar' prayer.

Simultaneously, eight EPZs under BEPZA observed national mourning day in a befitting manner and also arranged discussion on life history of Bangabandhu, screening documentary film and Doa Mahfil. BEPZA Public School & Colleges operated by EPZs observed the National Mourning Day in same manner including painting competitions, documentary show and Doa Mahfil. Similarly NARI project also arranged discussion program and Doa Mahfil.

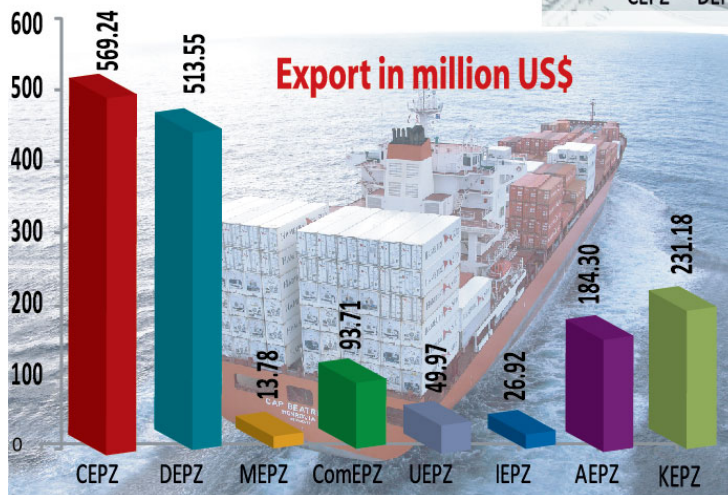




## Investment Gained US\$ 82.63 Million

US\$ 82.63 million have been invested in the eight EPZs of the country during July-September, 2017.

Of these total amount, Chittagong EPZ gained US\$ 21.26 million followed by Dhaka EPZ US\$ 16.26 million, Mongla EPZ US\$ 3.20 million, Comilla EPZ US\$ 4.68 million, Uttara EPZ US\$ 3.83 million, Ishwardi EPZ US\$ 5.26 million, Adamjee EPZ US\$ 12.50 million and Karnaphuli EPZ US\$ 15.64 million.



## Export Earned US\$ 1682.64 Million

The enterprises of eight EPZs have exported goods worth US\$ 1682.64 million in the first quarter of the current financial year.

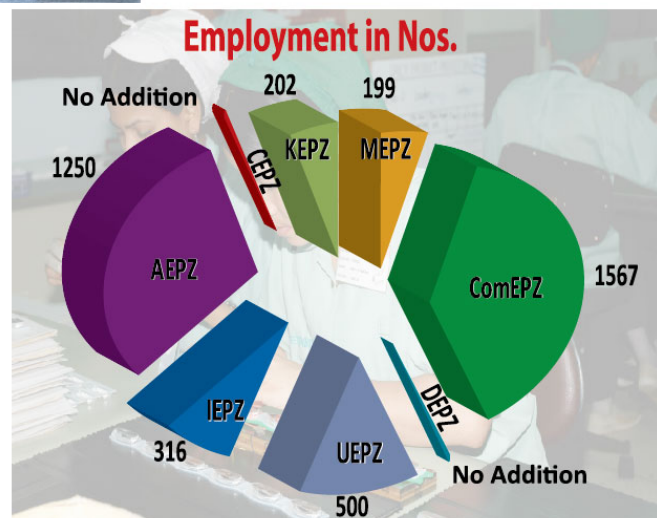
Export earnings from Chittagong EPZ US\$ 569.24 million while that of Dhaka EPZ stands at US\$ 513.55 million, Mongla EPZ US\$ 13.78 million, Comilla EPZ US\$ 93.71 million, Uttara EPZ US\$ 49.97 million, Ishwardi EPZ US\$ 26.92 million, Adamjee EPZ US\$ 184.30 million and Karnaphuli EPZ US\$ 231.18 million.

- CEPZ   ■ DEPZ   ■ MEPZ   ■ ComeEPZ
- IEPZ   ■ AEPZ   ■ KEPZ   ■ UEPZ

## New Job Opportunity for 4034 Bangladeshi

4034 Bangladeshi workers added in the operating industrial units of EPZs in last three months.

Among them 199 in Mongla EPZ, 1567 in Comilla EPZ, 500 in Uttara EPZ, 316 in Ishwardi EPZ, 1250 in Adamjee EPZ and 202 in Karnaphuli EPZ. No addition in Chittagong and Dhaka EPZ.





EPZ	Unit (Nos)		Export (US\$ m)	Investment (US\$ m)	Workforce (Number)
	Operation	U/IMP			
<b>Chittagong</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>27046.21</b>	<b>1578.09</b>	<b>199594</b>
<b>Dhaka</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>23088.88</b>	<b>1308.38</b>	<b>91138</b>
<b>Comilla</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>2112.71</b>	<b>288.68</b>	<b>28586</b>
<b>Mongla</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>498.64</b>	<b>50.43</b>	<b>2266</b>
<b>Uttara</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>632.55</b>	<b>142.41</b>	<b>27282</b>
<b>Ishwardi</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>578.23</b>	<b>121.86</b>	<b>9374</b>
<b>Adamjee</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3079.51</b>	<b>434.04</b>	<b>54372</b>
<b>Karnaphuli</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>4012.76</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>67831</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>61,049.49</b>	<b>4423.88</b>	<b>4,80,443</b>



**INVESTOR**

Bangladesh	134	Indonesia	2
S. Korea	75	Spain	2
China	37	Denmark	2
Hong Kong	28	Belgium	1
Taiwan	29	Ireland	1
Japan	32	Ukraine	1
India	22	Thailand	1
USA	18	Marshall Island	1
UK	18	UAE	1
Malaysia	8	Romania	1
Pakistan	8	Australia	1
Sri Lanka	7	Malta	1
Germany	5	Cayman Islands	1
The Netherlands	6	Kuwait	1
Canada	7	Turkey	1
Italy	3	Sweden	UIMP
British Virgin Island	4	Mauritius	UIMP
Singapore	3	Qatar	UIMP
France	3	Oman	UIMP

**PRODUCT**

	Garments	115
	RMG Accessories	92
	Knit & Other Textile	35
	Textile	40
	Footwear & Leather	31
	Terry Towel	17
	Electronics & Electricals	18
	Plastic Goods	13
	Metal Products	14
	Agro Products	8
	Tent	10
	Service Industries	9
	Cap	6
	Chemical	6
	Furniture	4
	Ropes	3
	Paper Products	3
	Power Industry	2
	Sports Goods	2
	Fishing Reel & Golf Items	1
	Toys	1
	Jewelry	1
	Miscellaneous	34

# BEPZA : Bonanza for Investors

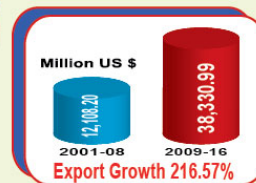


BEPZA-JETRO exchanging MoU in presence of the Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina



Honourable Prime Minister poses with Sr. Secretary to PMO, BEPZA Chief & investors of EPZs

## 8 Years Success



BEPZA Chief handing over APA document for the FY 2016-17 to the Honourable Prime Minister



### Attainment in 2016-17

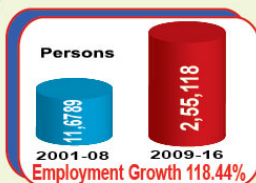
- Investment Escalated - US\$ 343.71 million
- Export Flourished - US\$ 6549.37 million
- Employment Generated - 26,638 nos.
- National Export Contribution - 18.81%
- National FDI Contribution - 15.62%

### Core Strength of EPZs

- Workers-Management-Owner Synergy
- Collaborative Teamwork
- Peaceful Working Environment
- Industry Friendly Atmosphere
- Congenial Investment Climate
- Ease of Doing Business

### Workers Welfare in EPZs

- Set a milestone in women empowerment
- Ensures workplace safety plus compliance & welfare
- Assured benefits, medical service & childcare
- Wages & other benefits increased twice in last 8 years
- Guaranteed 10% annual increment on basic



**BEPZA Welcomes Investors from all over the World**



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Prime Minister's Office  
**Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority**



BEPZA Complex, House # 19/D, Road#6, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1205, Phone : 880-2-9670530, 9675489, 9675410, 9672969, 9614332, 9613461, PABX: 9613467, 9613459, Fax: 880-2-9661849, 9673020, 9665545  
E-mail : info@bepza.gov.bd, chairman@bepza.gov.bd, member.ip@bepza.gov.bd, m.engr@bepza.gov.bd, member.finance@bepza.gov.bd, gm.pr@bepza.gov.bd, gm.ip@bepza.gov.bd, Website: www.bepza.gov.bd

Published by Public Relations Department