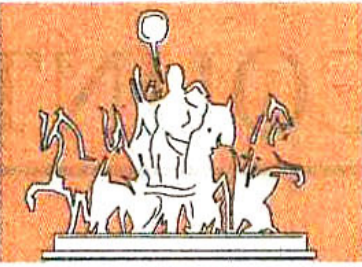




# DAY OF GERMAN UNITY



The Daily Star

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

OCTOBER 3, 2006

## MESSAGE



their country.

In the past few years Germany's engagement in development cooperation has been increasingly matched by our strong economic and trade relations. Germany is the largest export market for Bangladeshi goods in Europe, mainly importing ready-made garments. In May 2006 a delegation of the German Asia-Pacific Business Association (OAV) has been in Bangladesh on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Economics and Technology to further explore new opportunities for increased trade and investment.

Another field of close cooperation is the preservation and promotion of Bangladesh's cultural heritage. In this regard, a project aiming at the restoration of bengal sailing boats has just been successfully completed. An exhibition on traditional architecture in Bangladesh was shown in the Museum for Islamic Art in Berlin until January this year. The focal point of cultural exchange is the German cultural institute in Dhaka, the Goethe Institut, which offers a great variety of cultural and artistic programmes. Every year students and young scientists choose to study in Germany, the most talented of them with the support of the German Academic Exchange Service.

Germany has been hosting the biggest sports event of the year, the soccer world championship, which was followed by millions of fans worldwide. But people were not only coming together in Germany to cheer their teams, celebrate and make new friends. Also in otherwise cricket loving Bangladesh people turned out to be enthusiastic soccer fans showing their sympathy for the German host as well as for their favourite teams by a sea of flags waving from rooftops all over the country.

Last but not least I wish to greet my German compatriots in Bangladesh who contribute considerably to the good and friendly relations between our two countries.

**Frank Meyke**  
Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Bangladesh

## Invest in Germany

**DR. FRANK-WALTER STEINMEIER**  
Federal Foreign Minister

It is not long now before the referee's whistle blows on 9 June for the start of the world's biggest sports event. As its motto suggests, the 2006 FIFA World Cup Germany will be "a time to make friends". We Germans love sport, adore football and we are greatly looking forward to hosting football friends from all over the world in summer 2006.

The World Cup will also be a golden opportunity to show foreign investors what an exciting and innovative country Germany is. Its open regulatory framework, proven stability and successful blend of tradition and flexibility make for a modern and growth-oriented business climate.

With its world-renowned "Made in Germany" quality seal, Germany is a market leader in many key sectors. Its standing as one of the world's major economic players has been further enhanced by the huge investments made in the course of German unification and European integration.

One of Germany's hallmarks is the high value placed on science and culture and the traditionally close ties between the scientific community and industry. With its unrivalled track record of innovation, from typography to the first automobile or the MP3 format, Germany is truly a "Land of Ideas".

What makes Germany such an excellent place to do business has often been highlighted. The country offers investors all the ingredi-

ents of success, notably a well educated and highly trained labour force as well as a first-class infrastructure. Government policy, including the current reform agenda, is firmly geared to facilitating foreign investment. It is easier to establish a business in Germany than in most other countries.

Germany is the world's leading export nation. Investing in Germany not only gives you access to one of the most promising domestic markets strategically positioned inside the European Union, the world's largest internal market, but also to the world's export markets. The Federal Foreign Office and its network of 226 missions abroad stand ready to support you in realizing your business ideas, in Germany and across the world.

## Stages along the way to German unity--a chronology

GERMANY celebrates the 16th anniversary of reunification on October 3 this year. Rigged elections, an unprecedented wave of emigration and mass demonstrations led within a few months to the collapse of the power structures of the German Democratic Republic in 1989. After the resignation of the head of state and of the communist

party, Erich Honecker, on October 18 and the fall of the Berlin Wall at the beginning of November, a rapid unification process was set in train. Below are the most important stages:

9 November 1989 - Politburo member Guenter Schabowski mentions, apparently in passing, that the borders have been opened with immediate effect. Not long

afterwards thousands of East Germans flood across the borders. After 28 years, the Berlin Wall comes down.

13 November 1989 - Dresden party head Hans Modrow is tasked by the East German parliament with forming a new government. At the mass demonstrations that have been running for months there are

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

It is with great pleasure that I can state that Germany and Bangladesh can look back at a long, ongoing tradition of friendship and cooperation. Since the independence of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Germany has stood at the side of the people of Bangladesh as a reliable partner. The ties between our two countries have become stronger and more diversified over the years.

In particular Germany highly appreciates the constructive role of Bangladesh in international politics, including its contributions to regional stability in South Asia as well as to her active role in peace keeping missions of the United Nations. Both our countries share the conviction that solidarity, tolerance and worldwide cooperation are crucial to defeat the global challenges ahead of us such as fighting poverty and terrorism.

Since the independence of Bangladesh Germany has been a reliable development partner. Through GTZ, German Technical Cooperation, and KfW, the German Bank for Development Cooperation the German Government for decades has provided substantial technical and financial assistance in a broad spectrum of projects and programs. With their expertise and committed personnel they have made their contribution to the economic and social development of Bangladesh. So have many private organisations and individuals from Germany, who, with great enthusiasm, work with their dedicated Bangladeshi counterparts to the benefit of

**Our Heartiest Felicitations to the Government and the Friendly People of the Republic of German on the Occasion of the Day of German Unity.**



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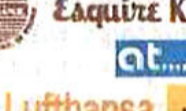
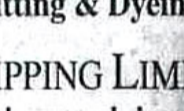
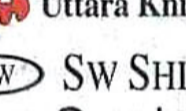
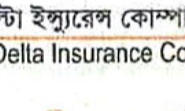
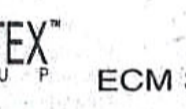
It's all a matter of logistics



**Bangladesh German Chamber of Commerce & Industry**



*All our heart-felt felicitation on the occasion of German Unification Day*



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## RENEWABLE ENERGIES

### The German solar energy producers expect growth spurt

GERMANY is worldwide regarded as the number one in the production of electricity from solar power, and German photovoltaics producers will be able to expand their global market share even further, according to the Federal Association of Solar Energy, Bundesverband Solarwirtschaft (BSW).

The domestic production of solar cells went up by 67 per cent last year, as solar power installations were booming amid high oil and gas prices, the association says.

Germany is tipped to become a "solar valley", according to BSW Managing Director Carsten Körnig.

About one quarter of the solar cells installed worldwide has been produced in Germany, the association has calculated. Five years ago, German solar cells made up less than 10 per cent of the world market, the BSW says.

"For southern Europe alone we expect a ten-fold increase of the photovoltaics market by the year 2010," says Körnig. The demand for solar power installations will boom in Spain, Italy, France and Greece

and result in more business for German photovoltaics producers, once these countries follow the German example and introduce attractive remuneration payments for solar energy fed into the energy grid, he reckons.

More than 40,000 people are employed in the German solar energy sector, according to the association. More than one million solar power systems are installed in Germany, with more than 95 per cent on rooftops.

Germany's about 5,000 solar power companies recorded a turnover of about 3.7 billion euro. About 150 factories produce photovoltaic equipment for the production of heat and energy from solar power. Most of the new installations take place in Eastern Germany, especially in the federal states of Thuringia, Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt, and Brandenburg.

However, solar power is used for the production of energy also in other German federal states: The worldwide largest interconnected solar power plant went on stream in the town of Pocking in Lower Bavaria in late April 2006.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



Project leader Martin Bucher is working on a solar power module in Pocking in Lower Bavaria.

## Celebrating The German Day of Unity



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