

## BANGLADESH APPAREL &amp; TEXTILE EXPOSITION

BAT'99  
EXPO '99

31 OCTOBER - 2 NOVEMBER



Design &amp; Planning : Ad Empire

PRESIDENT  
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

## Message

I welcome the 10th Bangladesh Apparel and Textile Exposition (BATEXPO'99) organised by Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA).

This is a significant trade fair which will be the meeting place of buyers and sellers. Trade fair plays an important role in furthering trade relation. This exposition, I hope, will act as a catalyst for further development and promotion of our products and their marketing. It will also provide opportunities to both local entrepreneurs and foreign buyers for discussion and exchange of necessary information.

I wish the Exposition a grand success.

Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed

PRIME MINISTER  
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S  
REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

## Message

I am happy to learn that Bangladesh Apparel & Textile Exposition (BATEXPO'99) is being organized in Dhaka.

Ready-made garment sector plays an important role towards economic development of Bangladesh. It earns valuable foreign exchange for us and contributes to poverty alleviation through employment generation. It also helps women's economic empowerment and energizes other sectors of the economy. I hope BATEXPO'99 would be able to draw attention of the foreign investors to our prospective industrial sector including the textiles. I hope it would help promote Bangladeshi products in overseas market.

I felicitate BGMEA for holding the exposition and wish it all success.

Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu  
May Bangladesh Live Forever.

Sheikh Hasina

Minister  
Ministry of Finance  
Government of the  
People's Republic of Bangladesh

## Message

I am glad to know that Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) is going to organize the Bangladesh Apparel and Textile Exposition (BATEXPO '99) for the 10th consecutive year.

I congratulate the BGMEA for organizing the fair. The fair aims at projecting the full range of garment products, fabrics and garment related accessories under a single roof. This effort, I believe, will create an excellent opportunity for the manufacturers and exporters to find new buyers. I am confident that BATEXPO '99 will not only continue to attract an increasing number of overseas buyers but also convince prospective foreign investors about Bangladesh's huge potentials in RMG's backward linkage industries.

I wish the Fair a grand success.

Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu  
May Bangladesh live forever.

Shah A M S Kibria

Minister  
Ministry of Commerce  
Government of the  
People's Republic of Bangladesh

## Message

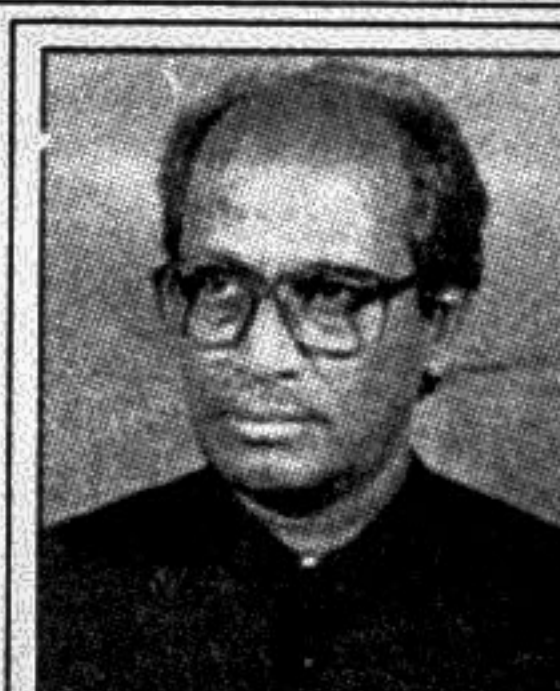
Entrepreneurs and exporters of textile sector are going to display their latest diverse product-lines once again through the annual event of BATEXPO '99. I am very happy for getting the opportunity to continue my endeavor through the exposition for the flourishing of the export sectors especially textile sector. Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association, the organizer of BATEXPO'99 deserves special appreciation for creating this appropriate environment of furthering external trade.

Apparels export is contributing greatly to our foreign exchange earnings. It has also generated employment of about 2.7 million people mainly from economically backward society of the country. So, the government is expanding its support to this sector for overall development of the economy. We have taken a good number of steps to diversify the products as well as destinations. We are proud of our entrepreneurs for proving their skill and efficiency in grabbing the export opportunity and facing the global and regional challenges. We are concentrating on promoting more value-added products not the bulk to convert challenges into opportunities after the phasing out period of Multi-fibre agreement.

I am sure, the colorful BATEXPO'99 will be able to attract more new foreign buyers for our products. I wish the exposition all success.

Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu  
May Bangladesh live forever.

Tofail Ahmed

Minister  
Ministry of Labour and  
Employment  
Government of the  
People's Republic of Bangladesh

## Message

I am heartened to learn that Bangladesh Apparel and Textile Exposition (BATEXPO'99) is being held under the auspices of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) from October 31, 1999-November 02, 1999.

Within a short span of a little over a decade, garment sector of Bangladesh has emerged as a factor in the global apparel market. It has successfully entered a highly competitive field and imprinted the name of Bangladesh in the world apparel map through the untiring efforts of talented entrepreneurs, courage and hard work of our labour force.

The sector has solved its child labour crisis in an acceptable manner. The industry has also taken "Earn and Learn" programme for 14 plus age group of the former child labour students who have completed their schooling programme under the Memorandum of Understanding on child labour. It has also taken various projects for the welfare of the garment workers for ensuring them better quality of life in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour & Employment, Government of the people's Republic of Bangladesh, ILO, UNICEF and few other UN bodies.

Our country is endowed with easily trainable huge labour force. Through this event I would request the foreign investors to invest in our textile sector-backward linkage industry of Bangladesh-to be benefited by the "captive" market created by the RMG exporters.

I wish the exposition a grand success.

Joy Bangla, Joy Bangabandhu,

M. A. Mannan



## Message

I am highly glad to know that Bangladesh Apparel and Textile Exposition (BATEXPO'99) is being organized by the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA).

By exporting ready made garments the BGMEA is earning a huge foreign currency for the country and providing significant employment opportunities to our jobless poor women. It has created a multidimensional integration in our economy by helping garment linkage industries to develop. As a result, our garment sector has provided the nation with a base for economic emancipation and also placed the name of the country in the apparel map of the world.

The present Government is trying its best to help the garment sector continue to flourish. Necessary steps are being taken to expand export through creating enabling environment for trade and investment. The government is playing the facilitatory role to expedite any private sector initiatives being the key player for economic development of the country. I am confident, the proposed National Shipping policy will be able to boost up the garment exports for the benefit of the country.

I congratulate the organizers of BATEXPO'99 and wish it all success.

Joy Bangla, Joy Bangabandhu  
Long live Bangladesh.

Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya  
Bir Bikram, M.P.President  
Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers &  
Exporters Association  
and Chief Patron  
BATEXPO'99

## Message

It is an occasion of great pleasure and honor that the BGMEA is holding the annual apparel and textiles show, the BATEXPO-99, for the tenth consecutive year.

The BGMEA, in its continuous efforts to bring the international buyers and national garment exporters under the same roof, is organizing the gala exhibition. Besides exhibiting our excellence and attainments in quality and price of apparels, the fair would also focus our progress in allied backward linkage industries.

On this auspicious occasion, I would like to share the joy and success with the hardworking members of the BGMEA family, our respected buyers and the 1.5 million workers of the sector.

We recall with deep gratitude the support and cooperation that has been extended to our sector by the government, departments & agencies, banking community, service providers and above all by each and every citizen of this country without which the RMG sector cannot continue its onward journey.

I am confident that the sellers'-buyers' direct interactions through this Expo would go a long way to win trust of more buyers resulting in expansion of the existing export markets for our products.

Let us take a fresh vow to fulfill the demands of the buyers by keeping our commitments. I extend my hearty thanks to the National Management Committee for BATEXPO-99, all BGMEA members and to all those who have made the event a success.

I wish the international buyers and their representatives a happy and comfortable stay in Bangladesh.

Anisur Rahman Sinha

State Minister  
Ministry of Textile  
Government of the  
People's Republic of Bangladesh

## Message

I am very delighted to know the BGMEA is going to organize the country's biggest Apparel and Textile Exposition BATEXPO'99 from 31 October to 2 November 1999.

It is worth mentioning that about 3000 export-oriented Ready made Garment (RMG) industry are now in operation in the country with more than employment of 1.6 million, majority of whom are women. The industry besides annual foreign exchange earnings worth of more than US\$ 4.0 billion, has created potential demand for more than 2.5 billion metres of different types of quality fabrics. But the industry has remained chronically dependent on imported fabrics and accessories to sustain this rapidly expanding export market of Ready-made Garments, due to very slow development of backward linkage facilities namely spinning, weaving, knitting and fabric processing etc.

In the backdrop of GATT Uruguay Round, the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC) replaced the MFA as of 1 January 1995 requiring countries like ours to phase out restrictions in four stages, the export-oriented RMG industry of Bangladesh will face severe consequence from 1 January 2005 due to acute shortage of fabrics of required quality.

The present government is extending all out supports and assistance to the local private entrepreneurs and foreign investors through offering various incentive packages for encouraging investment in the backward linkage industry of export-oriented (RMG). I would request the foreign buyers of Ready-made Garment in Bangladesh to come forward for setting up backward linkage industry, which will minimize the time and cost and also will ensure timely shipment. This will make the RMG of Bangladesh more competitive in the world market and thus create more value addition. I strongly believe, BGMEA's concerted efforts through BATEXPO would help further expansion and diversification of RMG and create strong momentum in enabling the local textile industry to meet the growing demand of apparel industry for quality fabrics.

I wish the BATEXPO'99 a grand success and congratulate all the members of BGMEA and other stakeholders for organizing such an exposition.  
Joy Bangla, Joy Bangabandhu  
May Bangladesh Live forever.

A.K.M. Zahangir Hossain



## Message

Secretary  
Ministry of Commerce  
Government of the  
People's Republic of Bangladesh

I am pleased to know that BGMEA is organizing the international fair on apparel and textiles, BATEXPO'99, in Dhaka for the 10th time. I appreciate the continuous efforts of BGMEA to hold this annual event.

Apparel, the single largest foreign exchange earner, presently accounts for more than seventy six percent of the country's total export earnings. The role of this sector both in employment generation and foreign exchange earnings is noteworthy.

I believe, the international exposition will further create markets for locally produced apparels. It will also help local manufacturers and foreign buyers to exchange views and ideas. I am confident, BATEXPO'99 will add momentum to our efforts to attain the expected growth rate through enhanced exports.

Sayed Alamgir Farrouk Chowdhury



## Message

BAT'99  
EXPO'99Chief Coordinator  
BATEXPO'99

Bangladesh with a glorified history of textile products in the past has again regained its position in the world as a leading supplier of apparels. It is now within the top ten suppliers to the EU and USA market. The economic spin-off of this industry in the banking, transportation, insurance, real estate, hotel and tourism, consumer goods are substantial. It exports ready-made garments to as many as 90 countries of the world with EU as the major importer, followed by USA-the single largest importing country. Though the global economy is changing rapidly, the present practice of trade liberalization have brought about immense challenge as well as opportunities for the developing countries. Like most of the developing Asian economies, Bangladeshi share of manufactured goods especially the RMG in total export rose substantially during the 1980's and 1990's.

This year 42 BGMEA members, 18 local accessories and fabric suppliers and 14 foreign organization will participate in the exposition. Like the previous years, this year also we are arranging for ready stock apparel sales for export.

This year we have placed BATEXPO in various overseas campaigning media. All of our international buyers and their references have been communicated through mails, Internet and other modes.

I wish all the participants pleasant experience, unprecedented fortune, remarkable prosperity on the auspicious moment of BATEXPO'99.

Hope all concerned would help us make the event a grand success.

K. M. Zaman (Romel)

Courtesy :



Prime Bank Limited