

Bscic hosiery  
post Tk 9,240cr  
exports

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (Bscic) Hosiery Industrial estate in Narayanganj exported knitting products worth about Tk 9,240 crore in 2007-08 fiscal year.

At the same time, 548 industries of the estate, established in 1999, also provided employment to some 1.41 lakh people.

It was disclosed yesterday when Chief Adviser's Special Assistant in charge of Industries Ministry Mahbub Jamil visited the Industrial estate, said an official handout.

Jamil visited the production activities and infrastructures of the estate.

He also assured the local entrepreneurs of providing possible assistance from government for its infrastructural development.

US to join  
Asia-Pacific  
free trade deal

AFP, United Nations

The United States has agreed to join Singapore, New Zealand, Chile and Brunei in a free trade agreement which could set the pace for a broader Asia-Pacific free trade area, officials said.

US Trade Representative Susan Schwab is expected to announce Washington's decision to participate in the "Comprehensive Trans-Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership Agreement" at a meeting Monday with ministers from the four countries on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly, the officials said.

"I can confirm that the US will join," a US administration official told AFP.

The agreement, the first trade pact involving a group of Pacific Rim countries, was signed between Singapore, Chile and New Zealand in 2005 before Brunei joined it a year later.

It was commonly known as the "P4" group with a broad objective to tear down trade barriers among participants within a decade, officials said.

The US decision to join the agreement will give impetus to a long term initiative within the 21-member Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) to forge a Free Trade Agreement of the Asia Pacific, officials said.

Row over toxic milk  
marketing widens

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The management of New Zealand Dairy Products Bangladesh Limited (NDPBL), manufacturer of Red Cow and Diploma powdered milk in Bangladesh, blamed a section of unscrupulous traders for tarnishing the image of the company by marketing contaminated products.

Managing Director of NDPBL SA Mallik said currently only his company is legally allowed for manufacturing and marketing Red Cow and Diploma brand powdered milk as the Supreme Court gave a verdict in favour of

the company, allowing manufacturing and marketing of the two products.

"From July of this year, only NDPBL is legally authorised to manufacture and distribute the Red Cow and Diploma brands in Bangladesh," he said, adding that a section of unscrupulous traders has been selling Red Cow and Diploma brand milk in contempt of the court order.

Mallik was speaking at a press conference in Dhaka yesterday to clarify his company's position as the company has been accused of selling horse milk in the name of

powdered cow milk under the brand names Red Cow and Diploma.

Mallik said NDPBL imports powdered milk from Fonterra in New Zealand, adding that the company collects 7 crore litres of milk every day.

At present, NDPBL trades in six brands of powdered milk: Anlene, Anchor, Prolene, Diploma, Red Cow and Farmland.

Of all the brands, Anlene, Anchor and Prolene carry milk products from New Zealand, while Diploma and Red Cow carry Australian milk products and Farmland is filled with the local product, he said.

Made in Bangladesh  
fair in New York  
Oct 17-19

UNB, Dhaka

A Bangladeshi product-based exhibition styled 'Made in Bangladesh' will be held in New York October 17-19 for promoting the country's world-class commodities in the United States.

First Multipurpose Services (FMS) LLC, a New York-based firm, in association with local advertising firm Matra, is organising the 3-day international fair at Manhattan's Penn Plaza Pavilion Exhibition Hall.

The Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) of Bangladesh will extend its all-out support to the organisers in staging the trade show.

At a press briefing at EPB office, FMS's Exhibition Coordinator Raghib Ahsan said 66 Bangladeshi firms have so far registered with his firm to participate in the fair. "We are expecting the rest of the participants from US-based expatriate Bangladeshi businessmen."

He said there would be a total of 109 stalls and 5 pavilions in the exhibition with the Bangladesh-labeled products. Most of the participants who registered for the fair are

from readymade garment (RMG), knitwear, software, melamine, furniture and real-estate sectors.

Matra's Chief Executive Officer Anisur Rahman Mahmud said representatives of 26 participating firms have so far obtained US visa, while others are under processing.

He foresees a tremendous chance for the participants to develop a linkage with the North American buyers of Bangladeshi products, particularly apparels and jute products.

"We've got a 10,000 buyers' data and with them we've been continuously keeping contacts," Mahmud said.

He noted that there would be cultural function as well at the exhibition to give the trading event a festive look.

EPB Director General Khalilur Rahman and Director (fair) Shawkat Ali also spoke at the function.

Khalilur Rahman said, "Since the Made-in-Bangladesh fair will play a key role in enhancing our exports to the USA, we are supporting this fair".

He mentioned that the USA is the single-largest export destination for Bangladesh.

US credit crisis  
may hit ROK  
bank reforms

ANN/THE KOREA HERALD

The South Korean government's financial deregulation plans aimed at nurturing giant investment banks may stumble due to the US credit crisis, which raised concerns about the risky nature of investment banking, industry watchers said Sunday.

The Financial Services Commission plans to submit 18 revision bills and three new bills to the National Assembly this year to reform the capital market and promote giant financial services firms.

The top financial regulator's plans include privatising state-run banks, easing the bank ownership cap for non-financial companies and revising the Capital Market Integration Act.

As one giant investment bank after another collapses, some lawmakers are calling for a more careful review of the plan to privatise the Korea Development Bank, which had attempted to buy Lehman.

The FSC plans to establish a holding company for KDB this year and list it on the stock market next year, before a full privatisation by 2012.

Also this year, the regulator plans to revise laws to ease bank ownership restrictions for private equity funds, pension funds and non-financial firms to help banks raise large capital.

Deutsche Bank  
to issue 40m  
new shares

AFP, Frankfurt

The biggest German bank, Deutsche Bank, said Monday it will issue up to 40 million new shares to pay for its purchase of a stake in Postbank.

Deutsche Bank said it would raise around two billion euros (2.9 billion dollars) from the transaction, allowing it to maintain a "strong equity capitalisation" even after paying 2.8 billion for 29.75 percent of Postbank.

Details on the operation's timing were not provided, but Deutsche Bank said it would sell the shares quickly and directly to institutional investors.

Dhaka to host int'l quality  
control conference

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Bangladesh will host the 33rd conference of the International Convention on Quality Control Circles in Dhaka on October 23-26, organisers said yesterday.

"The event will help Bangladesh develop a nationwide awareness on quality control of all products, ranging from textile to ship building," said AMM Khairul Bashar, secretary general of Bangladesh Society of Total Quality Management (BSTQM), at a press conference.

BSTQM, a voluntary organisation, will organise the four-day event for the first time in the country.

Bashar said quality control here means an improvement in work culture, human relations, empowerment, problem solving and quality of human resources and the process of their development to achieve excellence.

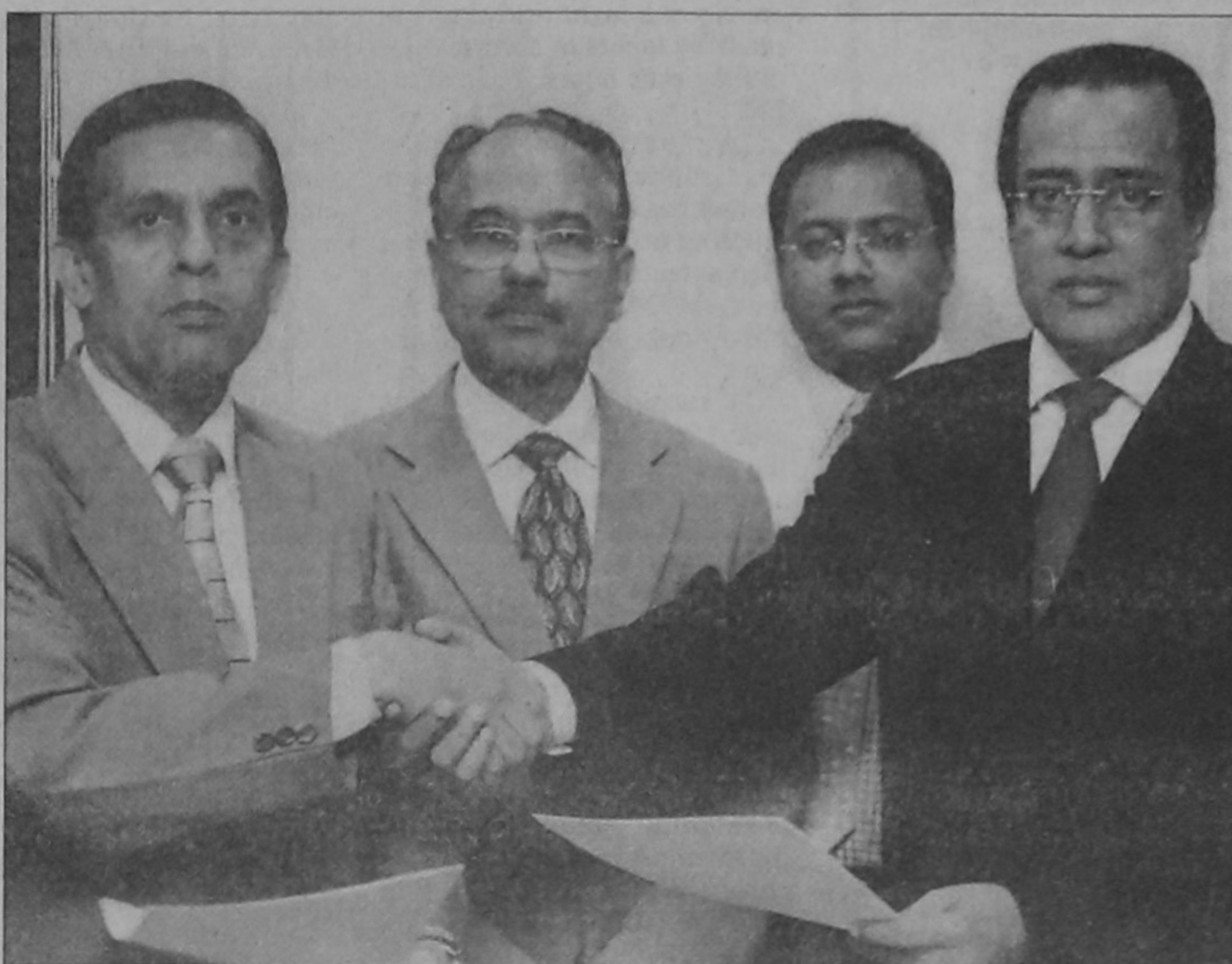
Bashar said Bangladesh policymakers and entrepreneurs would get an opportunity to share experiences with their counterparts from developed countries such as Japan,

South Korea and Singapore at the conference.

Case studies and technical papers covering steel, dockyard, power, textile, electronics, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, real estate, defence, education and service industry will be presented at the conference.

The organisers said that 500 delegates have signed up for participation in the programme.

MA Awal, president of BSTQM, and other senior officials were present at the press conference.



MERCANTILE BANK LTD

MA Yousuf Khan, senior executive vice president of Mercantile Bank Ltd, and Bharat Undavia, general manager of Economic Exchange Centre, UAE exchanging documents on behalf of their respective organisations after signing an agreement in Dubai recently. As per the agreement, Bangladeshi expatriates in UAE (United Arab Emirates) will be able to remit their foreign currency earnings to Bangladesh through Mercantile Bank. Dewan Mujibur Rahman, MD and CEO of Mercantile Bank, was also present.

Australian  
exports to  
surge

AFP, Sydney

Australian export earnings are set to hit record levels this year, due to continued strong demand for raw materials despite a global economic slowdown, the nation's chief forecaster said Monday.

But Australia's economy will not be immune from the slowdown, with expected growth downgraded from average of 3.50 percent to 2.75 percent for 2008-09, the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics said.

"While continued strong demand for Australian commodities is expected to provide support for economic growth, domestic demand is likely to moderate further over the next few quarters," it said in a commodities report.

The bureau said Australian commodity export earnings were forecast to reach a record 213.7 billion dollars (177.7 billion US) in the year to June 30, 2009, a 1.4 billion dollar increase from the June forecast.



## Bangladesh Investment Climate Fund

## IT System Development Services

## Business regulations e-registry in Bangladesh

## Request for Expression of Interest

The International Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group, promotes sustainable private sector investment in developing countries as a way to reduce poverty and improve people's lives.

The IFC Bangladesh Investment Climate Fund (IFC BICF) targets a better operating environment for businesses. The program is managed and executed by the IFC, the private sector development arm of the World Bank Group, and is funded by the U.K.'s Department for International Development and the European Union. Its objectives are consistent with the Bangladesh government's strategic vision for private sector development within its poverty reduction strategy. Government agencies and IFC BICF—in close collaboration with the Bangladeshi private sector and civil society—jointly design and implement programs to institute business friendly policies, laws and regulations, and strengthen the institutions that implement them.

IFC BICF requests eligible software development firms or individuals to indicate their interest in providing their services to implement the already designed electronic registry (e-Registry) for all business-related laws and regulations in Bangladesh as part of our Regulatory Reform Program. An indicative, but not exhaustive, list of scope of works for software development firms or individuals is as follows:

- Conduct coding and testing of the initial version of the application;
- Implement the website traffic monitoring and security systems;
- Provide a complete system documentation to facilitate future upgrades to the application;
- Undertake full implementation, installation of the application;
- Prepare operational manuals for staff managing content on the system managers approving new/updated information and the system administrators;
- Design and deliver classroom training programs for users;
- Design and deliver classroom training programs for the three classes of users previously described, including exercises designed to familiarize the users with all aspects of the software application.

The software development firms or individuals submitting applications should have:

- Technical experience in implementing applications utilizing open source technology platform based on an open source content management system (CMS) such as Joomla, and the underlying database will be in MySQL technologies.
- Capacity to deliver within tight time frames.
- Project managers and analysts with excellent command of English.

For details on the Request for Expression of Interest, please go to <http://sedf.org/consult.php>

Both firms and individuals qualified for this assignment are eligible to apply.

Expression of interest (EOI) must be submitted via email to [BICFcontact@ifc.org](mailto:BICFcontact@ifc.org). The deadline for submission of EOIs is 14 October 2008.



BICF is managed and executed by the IFC and funded by the U.K. Department for International Development and the European Commission

6th International  
Medical Exhibition

Winter Garden  
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Email: medexpo@triunegroup.net www.teemsbd.com

Government of the People's  
Republic of Bangladesh  
Department of Immigration & Passports  
E-7, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar  
Dhaka

Memo No: Estt-1/10/2007(Part-2) Date: 21 September, 2008

## Corrigendum

Corrigendum to Request for Expression of Interest (EOI) from the Consulting Firm(s) to organize the introduction of Machine Readable Passport (MRP) & Machine Readable Visa (MRV) in Bangladesh.

## EOI No. Estt. 1/10/2007 (Part-2)

The following corrigendum has been made on request for Expression of Interest (EOI) for selection of Consulting Firm(s) vide this office memo no. Estt-1/10/2007(Part-2)/Date:18-09-2008.

The Closing Date for submission of Application in response to our request for Expression of Interest (EOI) shall be 12.10.2008 instead of 30-10-2008.

The other terms and conditions of EOI will remain unchanged. This corrigendum should be the part of EOI.

Project Director  
For Director General  
E-7, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar  
Dhaka-1207  
Tel: 02-8159496

GD-4342

G7 vows to help US fight  
global financial crisis

AFP, Washington

The Group of Seven industrialised nations pledged Monday to help the United States address a global credit crisis, saying they will "take whatever actions may be necessary."

G7 finance officials welcomed recent US measures to counter the worst credit crisis since the 1930s Great Depression, including a US Treasury proposal to spend 700 billion dollars to buy toxic mortgage-related assets from financial institutions unveiled over the weekend.

"We strongly welcome the extraordinary actions taken by the United States to enhance the stability of financial mar-

kets and address credit concerns, especially through its plan to implement a program to remove illiquid assets that are destabilizing financial institutions," the G7 finance ministers and central bank governors said in a statement.

"We are ready to take whatever actions may be necessary, individually and collectively, to ensure the stability of the international financial system," they said.

The G7 statement was issued following a conference call Monday to discuss global financial markets by the finance officials of the United States, Japan, Canada, Britain, France, Germany and Italy.



TOMMY MIAH.COM

Tommy Miah, a renowned Bangladeshi origin chef in England, displays East Midlands Speciality Food Award at Royal Garden Hotel in Kensington of west London. The award was won at the annual Great Taste Awards Ceremony, organised by the Guide of Fine Foods.