



# The Daily Star

## Special Supplement



### special supplementary

## international business conference



PRESIDENT  
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH  
DHAKA

#### Message

I am delighted to know that Dhaka chamber of commerce & industry is going to organize an international business conference to mark its 50th founding anniversary in Dhaka.

Trade and commerce plays important role in country's overall development. In the age of globalization, developing Countries like ours are facing tremendous challenges to cope up the critical juncture of the world economy. I believe, Dhaka chamber of Commerce & industry along with other trade bodies of the country would adopt appropriate measures to face the challenges.

I wish the 50th founding anniversary of Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry a success.

Allah Hafez, Bangladesh Zindabad

Professor Dr. Iajuddin Ahmed



PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH  
DHAKA

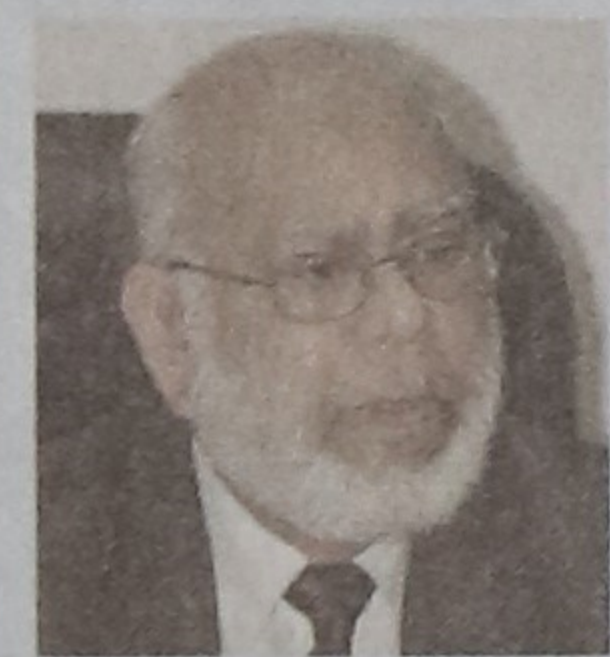
#### Message

I am pleased to know the mode of celebration of the Golden Jubilee of Dhaka Chamber of commerce & Industry. The thoughtful scheme to arranging an International business Conference to create a global platform is surely appreciable.

The theme being "the next fifteen years-a vision for growth followed by roundtable discussion on "Business strategies in a world of change", Impact of WTO on SMEs", Global economic shift to Asia" and "Does Bangladesh Have a Niche in asia" will come up with most relevant crisis and solution to match the global pace. speakers from all over the world have committed the conference, which will make the program meaningful.

I extend my thanks and greetings to all members of DCCI for such a time saving initiative.

Dr. Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury



CHAIRMAN  
Steering committee for  
DCCI Golden Jubilee Celebration  
&  
President  
ICC Bangladesh

#### Message

It gives me immense pleasure to be associated with the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry (DCCI) a premier Chamber of country, in organizing this International Business Conference on the occasion of its 50th founding anniversary.

It is an auspicious occasion for DCCI to organize this important conference at a time when the world is facing the crunch of recession coupled with financial tsunami originated in the United States.

The world leaders and the economists are all taken off-guard and now desperately trying to come up with emergency measures to overcome the crisis. The various bailout plans, including injecting hundreds of billion dollars into the banking and financial system are all designed to arrest immediate threats.

However there is need for concerted efforts by all countries across the continent not only to triumph over the situation but also draw up long term strategy for streamlining the world economic governance including transparency and accountability in order to restore confidence on the free market economy.

In such turmoil, the DCCI international business conference has been designed to address some of the critical issues affecting global business, exchange ideas and views in order to outline possible economic roadmap for next fifteen years for Bangladesh and the Region.

I hope and pray to Allah Rahmanur Rahim for making our combined and a concerted efforts a grand success.

Mahbubur Rahman



THE DHAKA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
PRESIDENT

#### Message

The International Business Conference organized by Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry as a part of its Golden Jubilee Celebration under the overarching theme of "The Next Fifteen Years - A vision for growth" is being organized when the economy of the world is facing a financial meltdown. Questions are being raised by many regarding the meltdown as to whether this could be the death of capitalism and the birth of a new world economic order. Government leaders, business persons, the academia are struggling to find ways out of the present mess and to forge a new economic regime that can withstand cyclic economic disorders, irrational policy decisions and inconsequential corrective steps.

Policies and strategies therefore need to be conceived in a way that the societies can coalesce and grow sinews of economic strength which are not subject to easy meltdowns.

Bangladesh as a developing country has been an incubator of ideas through history in order to bring the poor out of their misery. The country itself has a large reservoir of youth whose energy and skills will determine the future of this country. Like Bangladesh other developing countries are also leveraging their natural strengths to build their future.

It is time therefore to think of a brave new world where all can join in this exciting adventure. The DCCI International Business Conference is precisely designed to craft out such a strategy.

The Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry, is the largest chamber in Bangladesh representing also the largest number of SMEs in the country. It is celebrating its Golden Jubilee this year. It has many achievements to show including advocacy to privatize state owned enterprises. Over the past 50 years, the chamber has been influencing economic policies of the government not only for the good of business but also to empower the poor. It has a rich tradition of creating wealth and ensures that affluence is spread equally and the poor is also benefited.

Although, DCCI is working to enhance the pace of the economy, the dynamics of growth need to be carefully orchestrated. We want to hold hands with other countries in similar situation in the region and in the world and walk through not only the present economic crisis but also to devise steps to prevent such crisis in the future.

DCCI being the largest institution of its kind in Bangladesh sees itself as having a role to play for the young and bold entrepreneurs. We encourage them to take lead and participate in policy advocacy for corporate social responsibility and work towards a better business environment.

I welcome all the delegates both local and foreign to our International Conference titled "The Next Fifteen Years- A vision for growth" and wish them an intellectually stimulating stay.

Hossain Khaled



Secretary-General of UNCTAD

#### Message

I would like to congratulate the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry on its Golden Jubilee. After 50 years, and against the background of current world turmoil, it is useful to look at the experience of the past to devise solutions for our future challenges.

I wish you all the best for a most inspiring debate.

Pascal Lamy



#### Message

I am delighted to extend my best wishes to the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry as it celebrates the first half century of its existence. The DCCI has worked commendably hard in promoting trade, commerce and industry in Bangladesh, setting an example for other developing countries to follow. The chamber has played a crucial role as a provider of services, research and training, and authoritative opinion-making, and has been a persuasive voice for SMEs. Its contribution to the country's development has been invaluable.

I am fully confident that International Business Conference to be held in celebration of the DCCI's golden Jubilee will be highly successful; a reflection of the Chamber's many successes over the years and appropriate prelude to its future.

Supachai Panitchpakdi



CHIEF ADVISER  
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF  
BANGLADESH

#### Message

I am happy to learn that the Chamber of Commerce & Industry (DCCI) is organizing an International Business conference in Dhaka from 30 October to November 2008 marking its 50th founding anniversary.

I welcome the DCCI's bold and timely step in identifying the areas of global economic crisis and its endeavour to bring the academia, global business leaders, economic think-tanks and policymakers in formal and informal setting to discuss the current economic situation.

I extend my warm felicitations to the distinguished delegates and wish the conference a success.

Fakhruddin Ahmed



Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Bangladesh Secretariat

#### Message

I am happy to learn that Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) has taken the initiative to organize international business conference from 30 October to 1 November 2008.

The overarching theme for the conference, next fifteen years: a vision for growth gives evidence to the fact that DCCI puts highest importance in the affairs that might shape our future. This is immensely important for an organization that prides itself in promoting the short and medium enterprises (SMEs) of Bangladesh as they need to remain competitive and vigilant of the affairs that may have impact upon their competitiveness and so forth.

I hope conferences such as this will help the domestic as well as international participants to understand each other better and equally important, to understand the current events that may influence their future decision-making.

I think the DCCI authority to organize this event, I welcome the guests and participants who are attending this event and deeply grateful for their interest and time.

I wish this event a grand success.

Dr. Hossain Zilun



THE FEDERATION OF BANGLADESH CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
PRESIDENT

#### Message

I am delighted to learn about the initiative undertaken by Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) to organize an International Business Conference on the occasion of its 50th founding anniversary this year. The International meet will surely create a platform for Bangladesh as well as its business to enhance opportunities for our entrepreneurs in the global market.

The program is considered well-thought out and timely to meet the economic side the world is experiencing today. The deliberations in the Seminar and Roundtables will surely stimulate policies required to face the challenges now and in future.

On this occasion I convey my greetings to all the members of DCCI and hope that their struggle to face and overcome the consequences of global economic instability will bring a positive trend in the business.

On behalf of the apex body of the business community of Bangladesh I take this opportunity to offer my heartfelt felicitations to Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry for their efforts and dedication in publishing the souvenir to commemorate the 50th founding anniversary of DCCI and wish it a grand success.

Anisul Haq