



NATIONAL DAY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

OCTOBER 3, 2010



Lee Myung-bak
President of the Republic of Korea

Message from the Ambassador

It is my great honor and pleasure to convey warm greetings of the people and the government of the Republic of Korea to the people and the government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh on the auspicious occasion of the Korean National Foundation Day.

This year is very meaningful and memorable to Korea and Bangladesh. Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina made a three-day official visit to Korea last May. It was the first visit of such kind since 1995. Prime Minister's visit was a real success in many senses. She was warmly welcomed by Korean leaders including President Lee Myung-bak. Prime Minister attended various functions like the summit meeting with President Lee Myung-bak followed by official luncheon hosted by the President, a dinner with Korean parliamentary members and a luncheon with leading Korean businessmen. During her visit Korean Minister of Knowledge Economy (equivalent to Commerce Minister) and Minister of Environment paid courtesy calls on Prime Minister. Furthermore President Lee and Prime Minister Hasina agreed on various kinds of projects to upgrade bilateral relations in the fields like trade, economy, social development, culture and global issues. All these agreements were announced in the form of Joint Press Release issued right after summit meeting.

These agreements are now being translated into action through close consultations between the two governments. The visit by a large Korean business delegation to Dhaka for the expansion of bilateral trade and investment in late September is just an example.

Korea's special relations with Bangladesh date back to 1973 when our two countries agreed to have diplomatic relations. For example, with the diplomatic relations in place Korea and Bangladesh began to cooperate in garment industry very actively, which is now one of the major export industries of Bangladesh. Even today about 100 Korean companies are doing business in Bangladesh mostly in garment industry. Altogether they are providing jobs to nearly 100,000 Bangladeshi workers.

Also a Korean company is constructing Korea Export Processing Zone (KEPZ) of 2,500 acres in Chittagong. Once completed, it will be the first private EPZ in Bangladeshi history and is expected to create at least 350,000 new jobs along with new exports amounting to 1.2 billion US dollars. Korea as a front-runner in information and communication technology (ICT) wishes to be able to contribute to the realization of 'Digital Bangla 2021' proposed by Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. Recently, one of the Korea's leading electronics companies decided to establish its mobile technology R&D center in Dhaka and now is in the process of recruiting about 1,000 Bangladeshi experts.

The annual trade between Korea and Bangladesh has reached 1.1 billion US dollars. Korea is now Bangladesh's 9th largest trading partner. However in light of steady growth of our two economies even in the midst of global economic downturn I find not a small room for further increase of bilateral trade.

Energy development is one more sector where Korea and Bangladesh can collaborate. Many Korean companies are eager to participate in development of electricity, coal mines, natural gas and renewable

energies in Bangladesh. Some of them are already working on the construction of a power plant and the exploration of natural gas here.

'Climate change' is another important issue which requires close Korea-Bangladesh cooperation. We are well aware that Bangladesh is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change. Lee Myung-bak government adopted 'Low Carbon Green Growth' as one of its top-priority policies and announced a plan to establish 'Green Growth Institute' in Korea soon which will become a forum for the development of strategies and technologies to address global warming and climate change through cooperation by the experts and scholars from all over the world. The issue of climate change along with the economic and social development of the developing countries will be given a high priority on the agenda list when the leaders gather in Seoul in coming November for G-20 summit meeting.

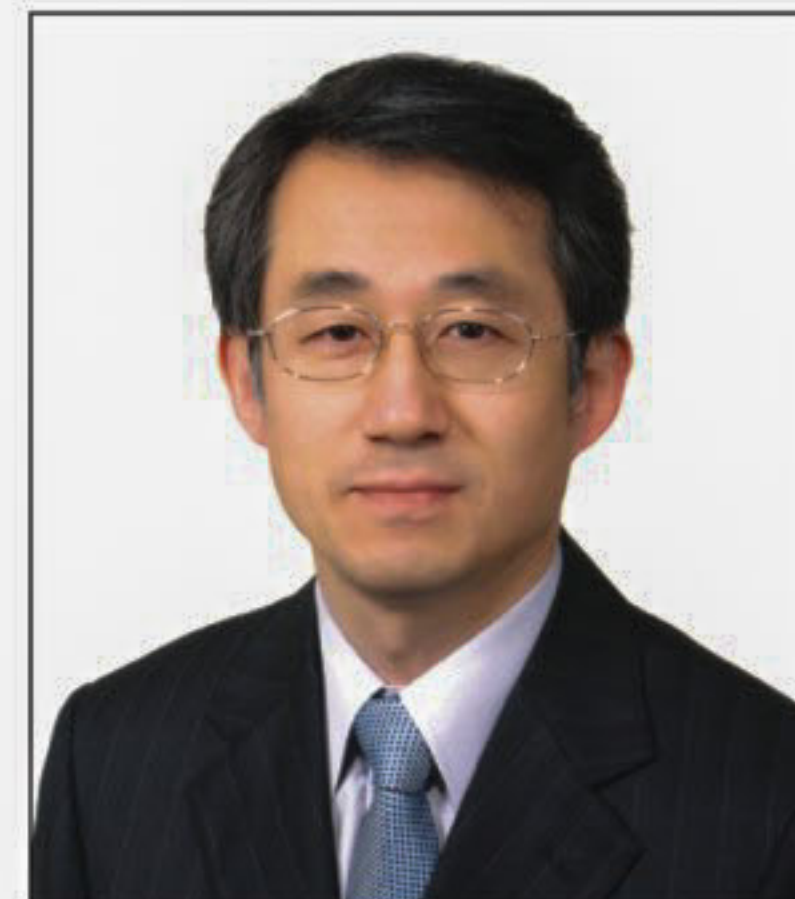
Korea has made it clear that it has willingness to share its development experiences with other countries including Bangladesh. Korea's willingness was already put into action through Knowledge Sharing Program (KSP) led by Korean government.

I said that special relations between Korea and Bangladesh date back to 1973. However, I might be wrong in saying so. The legendary poet Rabindranath Tagore wrote a poem for Korean people in 1929 to give hope to them who were under Japanese colonial rule. In his poem Tagore compared Korea to 'Lamp-bearer in the East'. Next year is the 150th anniversary of his birth. The year 2012 is the 100th anniversary of the publication of English translation of his poem 'Gitanjali'. Also the year

2013 is the 100th anniversary since Tagore received Nobel literature prize for 'Gitanjali' for the first time as Asian. Korea and Bangladesh already agreed to utilize those occasions to promote the cultural exchanges between the two countries.

Tagore, in his poem, said that "Korea is a lamp-bearer in the East." If so, Bangladesh is a lamp-bearer in the South. I hope the two lamps will flame up together. I do hope and I do believe that the friendship and cooperative relations between my country and People's Republic of Bangladesh will continue to grow in the years to come.

THANK YOU!



Taiyoung Cho
Ambassador of the Republic of Korea



S. M. Kamaluddin
President, KBCCI

Message from the President, KBCCI

It is my honour and privilege to convey on behalf of Korea-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KBCCI) the warm greeting of the business communities and the people of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and the Republic of Korea on the auspicious occasion of the Korean National Foundation Day.

The year 2010 marks the 37th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between two friendly countries. Korea and Bangladesh are poised for harmonious growth in the period ahead leading to vibrant economy and further strengthening of democracy in both the countries. Korean investment in Bangladesh also reached over US\$ 1 billion. From this year the Korean government has substantially expanded the scope of duty free and quota free (DFQF) access of the least developed countries (LDCs) for their products into their market. Many Bangladeshi products are getting duty free access to the Korean market. The Korea-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry was formally inaugurated by the Hon'ble President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh on February 3, 2010.

I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate that I have great hopes and expectation of a bright future for enhanced relations between our two countries which are expected to grow from strength to strength.

Thank you.



Mohammed Riyadh Ali
Honorary Consul, Republic of Korea in Chittagong

Message from the Honorary Consul, Republic of Korea in Chittagong

It's my great privilege to convey my heartiest greetings to the People's Republic of Korea on this auspicious occasion of National Foundation Day. I would like to express my profound attention to the friendly peoples of South Korea.

The cooperation and friendship between Bangladesh and Republic of Korea developed steadily over the years. With this phase of momentum I feel enthusiastic that Korean contribution for our economical up rising is obviously respectable. Bangladesh always deserves with dignity the people of Korea for their out standing efforts and their rapid growth in wider sense in world economy is really a great example. We must admit remembering the government of South Korea very well despite the fact of on going economical & business development which should be adorned in this different memorable day.

I personally delighted that the relationship of our two brotherly countries will be strengthening through our activities and mutual cooperation in the days to come. With accomplishment, let me express my warm wishing to the people of South Korea for their continuous progress.

HEARTIEST FELICITATIONS ON THE OCCASION OF THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION DAY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA.



SOME OF OUR PROJECTS



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Our Heartiest Congratulations to the Government and friendly people of Republic of Korea on this auspicious occasion of

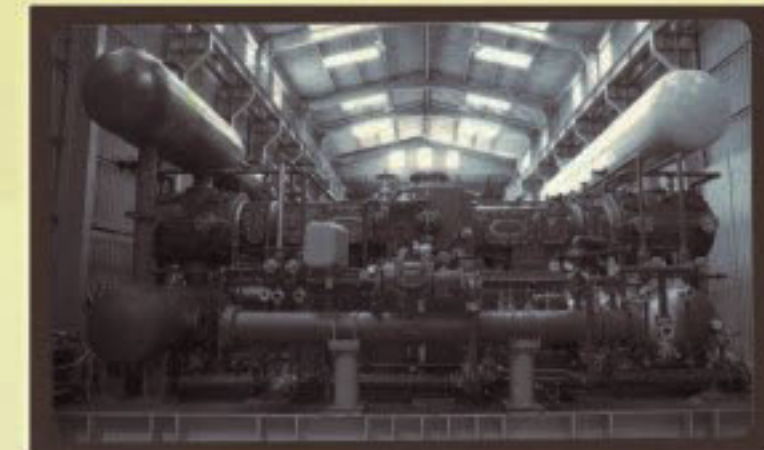
KOREAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION DAY



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