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RMG export to third world markets

Our RMG (and knitwear) exports are neglecting the four billion customers in third world region. Why not export cheaper clothes to other regions and diversify the market, and earn a couple of billion dollars extra?

Why not replicate the footpath stalls seen in Dhaka city in the African, S American and Asian cities? Bangladesh (and Japan) concentrates on the rich, western, developed and industrialised countries. Japan and Taiwan learnt the lessons of putting all the eggs into one basket.

The working conditions are improving in our RMG sector, but new markets should be tapped, and not concentrate on the rich customers only. The potentialities in the developing countries of exporting the right type of products should be researched. We are weak in the R&D culture, as there are no official incentives and infrastructures. The young educated generations coming out of the private universities should be employed in brain-storming projects to develop Bangladesh.

Quick profits should not be the primary aim in long-term development projects. Here the right political culture and



PHOTO: STAR

approach should be cultivated, and the initiative must come from the top leadership. But the goal these days is to crave for position and power, with public interest relegated lower down the priority list.

The RMG is a big and powerful sector, but

the political masters have to devote the right attention to its ultimate welfare and healthy environment. Our export policies need more fine-tuning.

**A Husnain
Dhaka**

Congratulations!



AFP

Congratulations, boys! You've made us proud by winning the ODI series against New Zealand team.

The Tigers are now mature enough to beat the established team like New Zealand. They played so well that we didn't even feel the absence of Tamim Iqbal. We wish that Bangladesh cricket team would keep this performance until the next world cup. I congratulate Shakib Al Hasan personally. I think he is the best spinning all-rounder in the cricket world after Sir Garry Sobers. And he is definitely going to replace Kallis. As a captain he executed his duty properly.

**Solaiman Palash
East Jurain, Dhaka**

League's founding father Sheikh Mujib. He was cruelly gunned down with all his family at his residence, in cold blood, by the army. From there on, through many violence and killings within the army, emerged the rival, the head of the same army's intelligence, and incidentally (?) the founder of BNP!

In Nature, as reported, AL men, attacked the BNP protest procession at Bonpara Bazar indiscriminately, using rods and knives, to kill the Upazila Chairman and also injuring the local municipal mayor and others, including newsmen and TV personnel, covering the BNP's protest procession.

What did the very 'efficient' and impartial (?) policemen do? Being absolutely impartial (!), they watched the one sided fight only. Reportedly the Jubo League and the Chhatra League led the goons, the officially detached wings of the Awami League! They so frightened the police that they were reduced to mesmerized spectators, possibly shivering in their shoes! They saw no evil, heard no evil, and did no evil, while the killing was going on.

What did the government do? They too were reduced to excuses, since their democratic network seems to be totally hijacked by (un-accredited?) Goons, for the Goons and of the Goons! They were 'watching' the lawlessness, not preventing or containing it! **Worried citizen
Dhaka**

Thoughts on graduation ceremony

I wondered, as I sat before the audience, how these eight years of school life had passed so quickly, leaving behind a handful of memories I would speak to my teachers, friends, parents at my graduation ceremony, delivering heart felt thanks to the teachers who had been

our mentors, leading us ahead in times of failure and gloom, school staff who had never backed down in the most pressing moments, gave us a helping hand when I thought there were not any. I listened to what the teachers had to say about us, praising us for our sincere efforts to score the best results in our O level exams, our honourable principal urging us to look at our path ahead and strive towards the zenith of success.

I walked slowly towards the podium, dragging my feet as they faltered and spoke at length how grateful I was to be a student of Paramount School, the only affiliated centre of Cambridge University in Rajshahi, providing education at comparatively cheaper fees than other reputed English medium schools of our country. I felt blessed, lucky to be a part of the family where my journey began from class three and culminated at O-levels, and I sincerely pray to the Almighty that may this family continue to thrive in educating, enlightening the young minds, producing morally developed students giving care, support and above all, love as it did for me.

**Shatabdi Biswas
Paramount School and
College
Rajshahi**

Challenges for Bangladesh

Bangladesh received an UN award for its remarkable achievement in reducing child mortality rate. According to the statistics of UNICEF, child mortality rate of Bangladesh was 151 per thousand in 1990, whereas in 2010 this rate is only 54. But Bangladesh could not achieve remarkable success in all the targets. Experts say Bangladesh faces climatic hazards due to global warm-

ing, which are obstructing our way to achieve the targets of MDGs. According to the reports published in the dailies, Bangladesh needs \$ 30 billion to meet the upcoming challenges of climate change. However, it is good news for Bangladesh that rich countries have agreed to allocate funds for the most vulnerable countries.

We expect that Bangladesh would be able to achieve the targets of MDGs by 2015, with the assistance from the UN and the international communities.

**Eng. Md. Meheub Haque
BUET**

Petrodollars

Subsequently, as economic history will reveal clearly, the money-makers started lending monstrous amounts of money to nations worldwide, to help them pay for their enormous oil bills. This secret deal with the Saudis and subsequently with OPEC on the sale of oil has been the foundation of the dollar economy from that time on. This monstrous plan created petrodollars worldwide. It can always be exchanged for the real thing, oil; and because everyone needs oil, everyone was forced to use petrodollars, now petrodollars were forced on them. This would suck them deeper into debt and the sinking sands of their monetary system through this secret oil-for-dollar currency deal.

This secret weapon involves the dollar, to subdue and control the world economy, and has been effectively in use ever since 1973. So in conclusion, why didn't the dollar crash?

Because the petrodollar was created in secret in 1973 and executed and enforced in 1974, blamed on the Arabs, but actually the money-makers staged the whole thing!

**Ted Rudow III, MA
On e-mail**

Mayoral candidate

The article written jointly by Mr. MH Khan from Canada and HH Khondaker from Abudhabi under the caption 'Choosing a mayoral candidate for a mega city' and published on October 01, inevitably merits the kind attention of the Honourable PM. The authors in their style of mellifluous writing dwelt on, among other things, the multitude of problems the Dhaka City is submerged in, the metamorphosis into a Mega City with mega problems, the failures of the present corporation and finally the kind of man who, among many aspirants, should be singled out for the position of next mayor.

In fact Dhaka is already a Mega City growing bigger and faster than one can imagine and its corporation must have someone with abiding, extraordinary qualities to be the real city father. The management of the present city corporation is widely alleged to have gone feckless and utterly corrupt and woes and worries of the city dwellers and commuters continue to get worse.

We must seek for this institution of public utilities a man who by being himself impeccably honest could infuse honesty and commitment of service to the officials of the Corporation as a father leaves marks on his children. He must also be a man of dynamism and vision with enlightened education. We would like to make our humble request to the PM and President of the AL to nominate Mr. Saber Hussain Chowdhury as the next mayoral candidate. He seems to be the best of the bunch of the aspirants from the AL camp as he is not wanting in any requisites, neither he lacks in popularity; he is also called by many 'clean man'.

**A. H. Dewan
South Kafur
Dhaka**

Stockexchange

The necessity of stock exchange is vital for a country because stock exchange is an indispensable part of a country's economy. Stock exchange is a basket of investors which helps to develop a giant capital infrastructure to run a country's economy.

Stock exchange easily allocates investors assets and helps them to profit thereby. It increases the flow of capital in the market economy and reduces the risks by enforcing some important rules, which facilitate the investors. It also helps general investors to invest in different companies. Stock exchange provides the important information about the listed companies such as EGM, AGM, IPO, etc., which helps a single investor, because it is not possible for a single investor to collect all these information about different listed companies. Not only that, stock exchange also protects the price of shares by circuit breaker. Funds, which could have been consumed, or kept in idle deposits, are mobilized and redirected to support business commotion with benefits for numerous economic sectors such as agriculture, commerce and industry, resulting in stronger economic growth. Our stock exchanges, both DSE and CSE are running under company act 1994. According to this act, our two stock exchanges are non-profitable public limited companies, where the members are taking the profit of this company and they can also reinvest their profit and thus build a giant market infrastructure.

**Md. Shahriar Parvez
Lecturer of
Department of Business
Administration,
City University, Dhaka**

Bill Clinton's mission

Former US President Bill Clinton established the

William J. Clinton Foundation, a non-partisan organisation in 2001 with the noble mission to "strengthen the capacity of people throughout the world to meet the challenges of global interdependence."

In less than a decade, the Clinton Foundation has made a meaningful impact on some of the world's most pressing challenges promoting economic development, strengthening global health systems, and combating climate changes.

In order to accomplish its goals, the Clinton Foundation has set up separate initiatives which among others include - Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) - Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) - Clinton Climate Initiative (CCI) - Clinton Economic Opportunity Initiative (CEOI)

As per local needs, the Clinton Foundation has been working in diverse geographic regions for ensuring socio-economic development.

A few years back when I came in close communication with the global development activities of the Clinton Foundation, I got the opportunity to learn more about the great human qualities of Bill Clinton. Since then I have been extending full support to the plan and programmes undertaken by the Clinton Foundation.

I would like to request all to extend hands of cooperation to Bill Clinton in realising the goals of his noble mission through implementing all the development programmes of the Clinton Foundation towards turning our boiling planet into a smiling heaven where people can live in peace without poverty in good health and in a green environment.

**Professor M. Zahidul Haque
Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural
University
Dhaka**

Unbearable!



PHOTO: STAR

To be quite honest with everyone, I am simply fed up with the way this government is running this nation. It seems they are totally lost. If you get out of your house, there is huge traffic jam, if you stay in your house, there is load shedding for at least 10-12 times a day, if you go to markets, it is unthinkable to

purchase goods comfortably due to high prices. Where should we all go? It has really become unbearable to live in this society. What crime did the ordinary citizens commit to get into this kind of punishment?

**Minhaj Ahmed
Uttara, Dhaka**

Population boom



ADNAN DRINKERS

Unemployment, poor healthcare system, electricity, gas, and water crises, severe traffic jams, chaos in educational institutions, poor leadership in politics, climate change, unrest in share market and RMG factories, etc., are some of the major problems of our country at present.

We have learnt from the media that the citizens of the rich countries are also suffering from most of the above-mentioned problems, more or less. It is expected that in course of time, most of the countries will cope with these problems, except a few countries like Bangladesh, because unlike other countries Bangladesh failed to create awareness among its citizens about the number one problem of the country, that is population boom, the centre of all these problems.

It is really a matter of regret that

still the apex body of the government does not seem anxious about population explosion of the country, rather they overlook this issue after doing some lip services. However, each and every countryman should understand the result of unplanned population growth. One does not need to be a specialist to understand the result, one's experience in daily life is enough.

**Mobarak Ali
RK Mission Road
Gopibag, Dhaka**

It seems to me we have not yet taken the over population problem as seriously as we should have taken it many years ago. The campaigns that are being conducted by the government and different NGOs are also not enough considering the level of the problem. Our

policy makers also don't put much emphasis on population problem.

Poverty will never be reduced, 100% literacy rate will never be achieved, food security will never be ensured, and MDGs will remain unachieved if we can't reduce our population growth. Due to the size of the population we are failing to educate all of our people. Uneducated population is a burden to the country. Ensuring food security is becoming increasingly difficult. Extra population is creating extra pressure on every sector such as employment, health, housing, power and energy, transportation, environment, law and order, etc.

Our media and the authorities of the govt. should play a more active role in raising awareness among people in this regard.

**G.M. Rezwan Rasul
Kalyanpur, Dhaka**