

Ctg BGMEA leaders vow to work together to help garment sector flourish

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

The newly elected first vice-president of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association Nasiruddin Ahmed Chowdhury yesterday said the association is keen on cooperating with all BGMEA leaders to help ensure growth in the ready-made garments sector.

He urged the government to provide special services at Chittagong Port and Chittagong Customs to ease trade for the apparel sector that has been made vulnerable by recent political volatility.

He also insisted on establishing an industrial zone in the Chittagong region to attract more local and foreign

investment, which would play a bolder role in the growth of the apparel sector in Bangladesh.

He was speaking at the reception accorded to newly elected directors of BGMEA Chittagong at its port city office.

Meanwhile, Nasiruddin Chowdhury, outgoing first vice-president of BGMEA, said if they don't work seriously from now on, the RMG sector may incur more losses.

Currently the Chittagong RMG sector accounts for nearly 30 percent of the country's total exports but if the current downtrend prevails, contribution could fall to as low as 10 percent in the next ten years, he said.

The outgoing directors were bid farewell at the programme.

Russian tycoon offers to buy Orascom Telecom

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Orascom Telecom, a heavyweight on the Egyptian Stock Exchange, is controlled by Russia's Vimpelcom. Altimo owns 47.85 percent of Vimpelcom.

Vimpelcom is seeking to keep operating control and the right to consolidate its Algerian unit Djazzy, held by Orascom, while the local government aims to acquire a 51 percent stake. The sale of Djazzy will be a driver for Orascom's stock, according to Ivan Kim, a telecom analyst at VTB Capital in Moscow.

The Algerian government and VimpelCom may reach an agreement soon, local newspaper Al Khabar said last week. Buying out the 48 percent of Orascom that Vimpelcom does not own may require \$1.8 billion, according to BCS.

"The premium to market price that Altimo offered doesn't look impressive," Kurbatova said, estimating Altimo may gain a 15 percent to 20 percent stake. "Not everyone will sell."

Amsterdam-based VimpelCom does not plan to sell its 51.9 percent stake to Altimo, Bobby Leach, a spokesman, said by mobile phone, according to the Bloomberg report. Altimo's spokesman Evgeny Dumalkin declined to comment.

"We were expecting that they would be taking Orascom out of the market, but we think it's a very low price," Maria Samir, a telecom analyst at Cairo-based investment bank Beltone Financial, said.

With details from Bloomberg and Reuters

Biman's new e-mail address for customers

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Biman Bangladesh Airlines introduced a new e-mail address -- customerrelations@bdbiman.com -- yesterday to collect feedback of its customers/well-wishers, the airliner said in a statement.

Many problems can be solved with the help of customers' comments and suggestions, said Kevin John Steele, managing director of the national carrier.

There is no alternative but to ensure good services, for which the airline is giving importance on feedback and suggestion of customers, he said.

Biman appointed a fulltime staff to check and inform email messages regularly to Steele, according to the statement.

Bakhrabad Gas gets new MD

STAR BUSINESS DESK

A K M Shafiqur Rahman has recently joined Bakhrabad Gas Distribution Co Ltd as its managing director, the company said in a statement yesterday.

Also the general manager of Petrobangla, Rahman completed his BSc in engineering from Chittagong University of Engineering of Technology and did his post graduation from California University. He also worked with LGRD before join-



Unilever Bangladesh appoints first female director

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Mononita Syed-Haq has recently been appointed as the new human resources director of Unilever Bangladesh Ltd (UBL), the company said in a statement yesterday.

Mononita is the first female member to join UBL's management committee, according to the statement.

She has over 17 years of professional experience in human resource, brand and corporate communications. Prior to joining Unilever, Mononita worked as senior brand service director at Adcomm Ltd, a leading advertising agency in Bangladesh.

"Mononita is well positioned for this role," said Kamran Bakr, UBL chairman. Unilever is one of the world's leading suppliers of fast-moving consumer



A Rouf Chowdhury, chairman of Bank Asia, and HBM Iqbal, chairman of Premier Bank (PBL), present mini buses on behalf of banks to the officials of Z Rahman PBL School and College at Bhairab upazila in Kishoreganj district recently, as part of the banks' corporate social responsibility.



J Ekram Hussain, deputy managing director of Rangs Electronics Ltd, attends a ceremony to launch the android-enabled Sony SmartWatch and a multifunction stereohead -- Sony Smart headset -- at Sonartori Tower in Dhaka yesterday.

BAPI re-elects president



Salman F Rahman

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Salman F Rahman, vice chairman of Beximco Pharma, was re-elected as the president of Bangladesh Association of Pharmaceutical Industries on Saturday, the association said in a statement.

Abdul Muktadir, managing director of Incepta Pharmaceuticals, was also re-elected as the general secretary of the association.

Mominul Haqu, managing director of General Pharmaceuticals, was elected senior vice president, and Medimet Pharma's Khandaker Tarikul Islam was chosen as vice president.

Emirates hails Qantas tie-up as aviation growth model

AFP, Dubai

Emirates airlines hailed on Monday its tie-up with Qantas as a growth model, after the first flight of the Australian carrier to its new international hub in Dubai.

"This is certainly a growth model... for Emirates and for Qantas," Emirates president Tim Clark told reporters in Dubai, after he flew from Sydney along with Qantas CEO Alan Joyce and the Australian Minister of Transport Anthony Albanese.

"Of course we do expect to grow the income out of the Oceania," said the boss of the Dubai-owned carrier, indicating that Emirates has been increasing flights to

Nuke power plant proposal seeks approval today

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In January this year, Bangladesh signed two loan agreements with Russia to build the plant.

Russia will also provide \$500 million to assess the technical feasibility and overall viability of nuclear power, as there are concerns that the introduction of nuclear power would create health, safety, and environmental challenges, especially due to the high popula-

Garment makers reiterate opposition to hartal

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A team of Russian buyers went back home from Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka during the Wednesday-Thursday hartals last week.

Moreover, as foreign buyers are now threatening to cancel orders for delayed shipment, exporters have to go for expensive airfreight to meet the cut-off time, the trade bodies said. Damage inflicted on the garment sector puts at risk the livelihoods of the innumerable garment workers, which the economy will not be able to

Danish minister praises model RMG factory

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"I will tell the Danish consumers that they can buy goods safely from GMS. Next time, I will also be proud to buy a new T-shirt sourced from the company."

He, however, urged the garment manufacturers in Bangladesh to continue improving the working conditions.

Around 70 percent of the factory's capacity is used for Danish buyers like Bestseller (65 percent) and Rex & Holm (5 percent). The remaining 30 percent is used to make clothes for other European customers, said Md Golam Mostafa, managing director of the company.

The company's annual turnover stands at \$150 million, employing 12,000 people, he said.

Situated upon around 11 lakh square feet, the factory produces different products like T-shirts, polo shirts, sweat shirts, ladies' and children's wear for renowned brands like FOTL, KAPPA, ORSAY, PIMKIE, said M Golam Mustafa, executive director of the company.

Value addition of the factory is around 60-65 percent, he said.

GMS is the largest composite factory in knitwear in Bangladesh and they received the National Export Trophy from the commerce ministry in 2009-10 for the highest exports, according to the managing director.

The company provides all types of facilities to ensure better working conditions and has well-equipped fire extinguisher systems, day care and in-house doctors, the company said in a statement.

One of the unique features of the factory is profit-sharing with the workers. "We provide 5 percent of our profits to the workers along with other benefits such as incentive bonus, attendance bonus and yearly increment."

The factory also has a modern laboratory with the latest equipment including the Spectrophotometer, to perform comprehensive lab tests to meet internationally recognised standards, according to the statement.



M Ghaziul Haque, chairman of Eastern Bank, attends the bank's 21st annual general meeting at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in Dhaka yesterday. The bank announced 20 percent cash dividends for 2012. Ali Reza Iftekhar, managing director, was also present.



Syed Ashraf Uddin Ahmed, regional manager of Robi, poses with the officials of Gorai Mobile Connection in Mirzapur of Tangail, winner of the best dealer award, at a programme in Robi's regional office in Mymensingh on Sunday. The first, second and third prize winners were given a motorcycle, an air conditioner, and a colour television.

ভেঙের তালিকাভুক্তি

স্বনামধন্য আন্তর্জাতিক মানের লুব্রিকেন্ট উৎপাদনকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান এমজেএল বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড - এর আউটডোর প্রিন্ট ম্যাটেরিয়াল, গিফট আইটেম ও ব্র্যান্ড কমিউনিকেশন ম্যাটেরিয়াল প্রস্তুতকারক এবং সরবরাহের জন্য ভেঙের আবশ্যক। ন্যূনতম ৫ (পাঁচ) বছরের অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পন্ন আগ্রহী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের ১০ (দশ) দিনের মধ্যে নিম্নোক্ত প্রয়োজনীয় কাগজপত্রসহ সরাসরি অথবা ডাক/কুরিয়ার যোগে আবেদনের জন্যে অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে:

১. বৈধ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স
২. টি.আই.এন সনদপত্র/সার্টিফিকেট
৩. ভ্যাট সনদপত্র
৪. গ্রাহক তালিকা
৫. যৌথ মালিকানাধীন, বহুজাতিক কোম্পানী সহ খ্যাতনামা কোম্পানীতে সাম্প্রতিক ৩ গত ২ (দুই) বছরের কার্যদেশপত্রের বিবরণী
৬. ব্যাংক সনডেন্সি সার্টিফিকেট
৭. দুই (২) কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজ ছবি

যোগাযোগের ঠিকানাঃ
ব্র্যান্ড ডিপার্টমেন্ট, মবিল হাউস, সিডব্লুএস(সি)-৯, গুলশান-৯, ঢাকা-১২১২
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