



NATIONAL FOUNDATION DAY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT | OCTOBER 3, 2013



H.E. Park Geun-hye, President, The Republic of Korea

First female president for "Global Happiness"

On December 19, 2012, President Park Geun-hye was elected President of the country. She has become the first female President in Northeast Asia and has won the trust of the Korean people.

President Park Geun-hye received the highest number of votes since direct elections were restored in the country in 1987. She is the first to win a majority of the popular vote in a presidential election. She also became the first female president.

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KOREA-BANGLADESH FLAME UP TOGETHER

Message from the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea on the occasion of the Korean National Foundation Day in 2013

On behalf of the people and the government of the Republic of Korea, I would like to extend my warmest greetings to the people and the government of Bangladesh on the auspicious occasion of the Korean National Foundation Day on October 3, 2013.

This year is very meaningful and memorable to Korea and Bangladesh as it marks the 40th Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Korea and Bangladesh. The Korea Embassy in Dhaka was opened in early 1975 just over a year after the establishment of the diplomatic relations in December 1973. In 1978, KOTRA (the Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency) opened up its office in Dhaka as there was strong demand for the promotion of trade and investment. Furthermore, in an effort to assist the socio-economic development of Bangladesh through various development cooperation programs, the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) was established in Dhaka in 1993.

For the last four decades, Korea and Bangladesh have been enjoying an excellent relationship. Koreans were the first frontiers who came to and invested in Bangladesh as early as in the late 1970s, and Korean entrepreneurs set up garment factories for exports for the first time in Bangladesh history, now accounting for around 6% of the total Bangladeshi export and employing 160 thousand workers. It should be noted that Korean investors running garment factories here in Bangladesh have ever cared much about the welfare and happiness of their workers, as witnessed through the fact that a Korean firm, Youngone, started to employ female workers in 1980 for the first time. They are now willingly joining a variety of efforts to improve working conditions and welfare of workers after the recent heart-breaking incidents.

Against this backdrop of a long-standing friendship, I am extremely pleased to see that, recently, the relations between

the two countries are being upgraded not only in quantity but also in quality. First of all, trade volume between the two countries has continuously increased, now reaching almost 2 billion dollars in spite of overall global economic recession. More encouraging sign here is that the total increase in trade is accompanied by the drastic surge in export from Bangladesh to Korea. It grew by about 75% in 2011 and 21% last year. While this is mainly thanks to the increasing demand and the Korea's Duty-Free and Quota-Free market access policy, I believe we are going in the right direction of mutually beneficial trade relationship. Secondly, investment is also not only being intensified but also being diversified. Until recently, Korean investment has mainly focused on textiles and ready-made garments. However, it is being diversified into many innovative areas such as infrastructure, R&D sector and business service. It is very encouraging to see that not only the big Korean companies such as Samsung and LG are expanding their commercial presence in Bangladesh, but, in fact, also more and more small and medium-sized enterprises are coming to Bangladesh to seek new business opportunities.

When it comes to the development cooperation, Bangladesh is one of Korea's top priority partner countries. Most recently, the "Framework Arrangement concerning Loans from the Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) for the years 2012 through 2014" worth US \$300 million was signed between Korea and Bangladesh last June. As its first phase, "Installation of Wireless Broadband Network for Digital Bangladesh" project with the amount of

US \$77 million will be launched in the near future. Furthermore, KOICA, which has played an essential role in supporting Bangladeshi socio-economic development with around 70 volunteers working across the country over the last 20 years, is involved in many projects, including the establishment of the National Institute of Advanced Nursing and 100 IT labs in 100 secondary schools in Dhaka, the capacity building of Bangladeshi cyber crime investigation, and renovation of Chittagong Technical Training Centre.

The Korean Government believes that all these will contribute to the socio-economic development of Bangladesh and further promoting bilateral relations between the two countries.

Also, it is important to note that about 7,500 of Bangladeshi workers have found their stable and profitable jobs in Korea since the inception of the EPS (Employment Permit System) in 2007 under which Korean Government designated Bangladesh as a partner country to receive Bangladeshi workers into Korea. Around 1,500 to 2,000 workers are going to Korea under this EPS every year. Besides, Korean construction companies, which have undertaken diverse projects all over the world, have been recruiting a huge number of Bangladeshi workers during the last 30 years.

On the regional and international cooperation, Korea and Bangladesh have maintained close cooperation on a basis of mutual respect and understanding. In the UN and other international organizations, we have been working closely together on various issues, such as climate change and security. The Bangladeshi high-level delegation will be attending the Seoul Conference on Cyberspace 2013 due on October 17-18 in Korea, where approximately 1,000 participants from more than 80 countries will discuss all

sorts of cyberspace-related issues under the theme 'Global Prosperity through an Open and Secure Cyberspace Opportunities, Threats and Cooperation'. When it comes to the regional level, Korea joined the SAARC as an observer country in 2006. Since then, Korea has been paying increasingly more attention to Bangladesh and South Asia as a whole. In December 2011, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea hosted "The Korea-SAARC Partnership Seminar" in Seoul, Korea, inviting high officials from SAARC Member States.

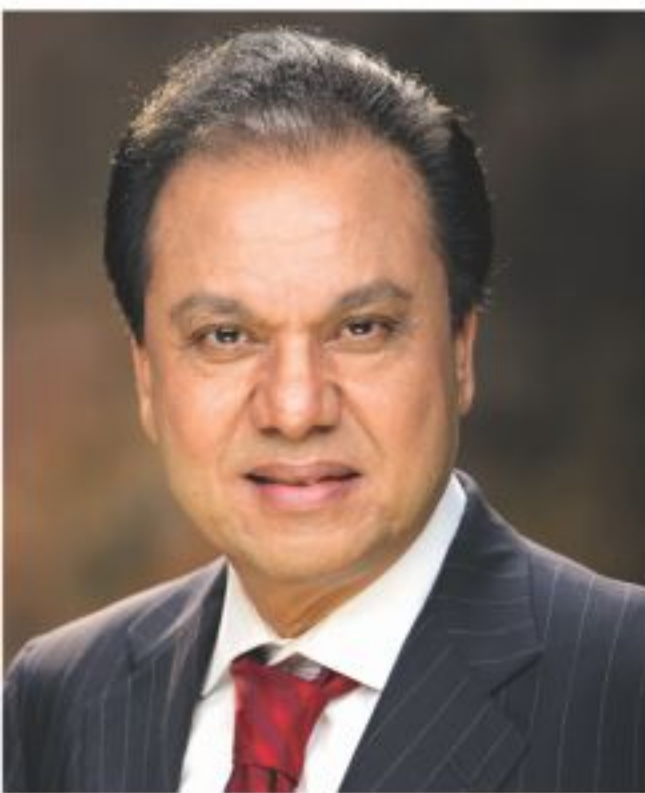
As mentioned earlier, this year marks the 40th Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Korea and Bangladesh. To celebrate our long-time friendship, we are holding serial events throughout this year. You would remember the Classical Concert in January, the Art Exhibition in February, the 'Charm of Korea' of the captivating performance of the B-boy and traditional fusion music team in May and Taekwondo championships in June. In addition to those cultural events, we also hosted a joint seminar titled "Strengthening Strategic Partnerships between Bangladesh and Korea" in June, where H.E. Dr. Dipu Moni, Foreign Minister of Bangladesh and a good number of other distinguished guests were present. The seminar provided a valuable opportunity to think about the past, present and future of our friendly relationship, in particular, from the perspective of strategic partnership. This is not the end! We are also planning to organize yet other various cultural events in upcoming days. The nearest ones will be in October in Dhaka and Chittagong on the occasion of Korean National Day. We hope to see your active participation!

Our 40-year old friendship is now evolving into a comprehensive cooperation alliance, encompassing the political, economic, social and people-to-people areas. Rabindranath 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 Republic of Korea and People's Republic of Bangladesh will continue to be strengthened in the years to come.

Long live Korea-Bangladesh Friendship!



H.E. Lee Yun-young
Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Bangladesh



S. M. Kamaluddin, President, KBCCI

KBCCI, as before shall be continuing to play its due role in expediting further, development of business and other related interactions between the business communities of the two countries.

Once again, wishing the people of Korea all the best on their National Foundation Day.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, KBCCI

This year marks the 40th year since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Republic of Korea and Bangladesh in December 1973.

The Korean National Foundation Day is on 3rd October, 2013. So this year is even more significant for both the people of the Republic of Korea and Bangladesh.

Over the last 4 (four) decades the relationship between the two friendly countries have grown from strength to strength and poised to grow to greater heights. The long standing business cooperation between the two countries covers Ready-made garments, Textiles, Automobiles, Heavy Industries, Information Technology, Research & Development (R&D), Infrastructure Development, Renewable Energy to name the major areas of cooperation and concentration. Trade volume between the two countries is likely to cross 2 (two) billion dollars in the near future.

On behalf of Korea-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KBCCI), I would like to take this opportunity to convey our warm greetings to the friendly people of the Republic of Korea and its vibrant, extremely dynamic, forward looking entrepreneurial business community, who has contributed much in transforming ROK into what it is today!

Bangladesh has immense potential and possibilities for mega development in the years ahead, particularly in the fields of infrastructure development, development of transport and communication facilities, power generation, housing & real estate, tourism sector, large scale water treatment plants, electrical appliances, renewable energy etc. I am sure the business communities as well as the Governments of the two countries will explore them for best mutual benefits.

MESSAGE FROM THE HONORARY CONSUL

Republic of Korea to Chittagong

I feel privileged to convey my warm greetings to the people of the Republic of Korea on the National Day. This year is the 40th anniversary of the diplomatic relationship between the two friendly nations, Bangladesh and Korea. Over the years, there have been steady bilateral growths in various fields like Trade, Commerce, Industry, Culture & International Co-operation. Bangladesh is one of the largest trading partners of Korea, especially in the field of Garments, heavy Machineries and Electronic products. The Embassy of Korea in Bangladesh has been playing a vital role in enhancing this bilateral relationship between the two friendly countries.

The presence of Korean Community in Bangladesh is very strong and vibrant, promoting social and cultural mix. Korea is the developed country and its willingness to share its experience with Bangladesh through Knowledge Sharing Program is always welcome. Korean Export Processing Zone in Chittagong will create new jobs along with revenues for new export.

To note another aspect of Korea is that, a silent revolution is going on in the field of Renewable Energy. It is poised to be the leader in Asia in research, development and use of Renewable Energy. There is an immense opportunity for Bangladesh to be benefited in this field through sharing of knowledge.

I look forward and confidently hope that the present pace of cooperation between the two promising countries, Bangladesh & Korea is set to accelerate further as we go forward together.



Mohammed Riyadh Ali
Honorary Consul
Republic of Korea to Chittagong

CONCORD



Jibor Bima Tower



Bangladesh Shilpa Bank



National Monument - Completed by Concord in only 89 days



IDB Bhaban



Janata Bank Bhaban



Indoor Stadium



Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport



Lake City Concord



VIP Terminal @ Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport



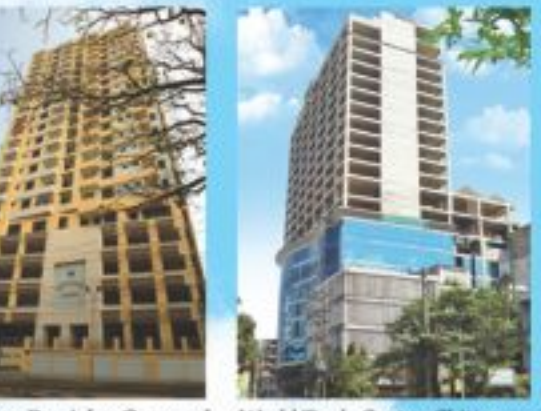
Lake Front Concord



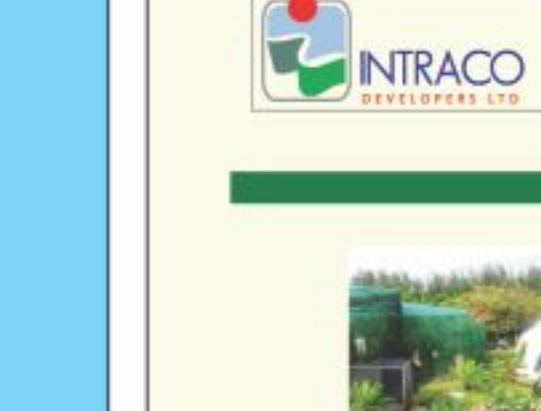
Grand Lake View Concord



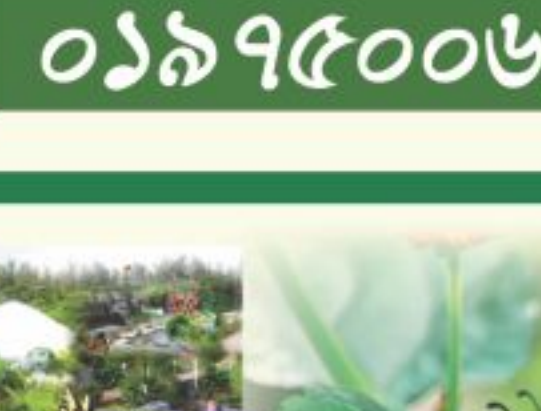
The Resorts



Concord Regency



Shogun Bagicha Concord



World Trade Centre, Chittagong

Concord is Bangladesh's leading construction conglomerate with over 1000 well-known projects to its name. Concord has set a standard in the construction and housing sector that is unmatched and has undertaken some of the most prestigious and technically challenging projects in the country. A few of Concord's projects are shown here.



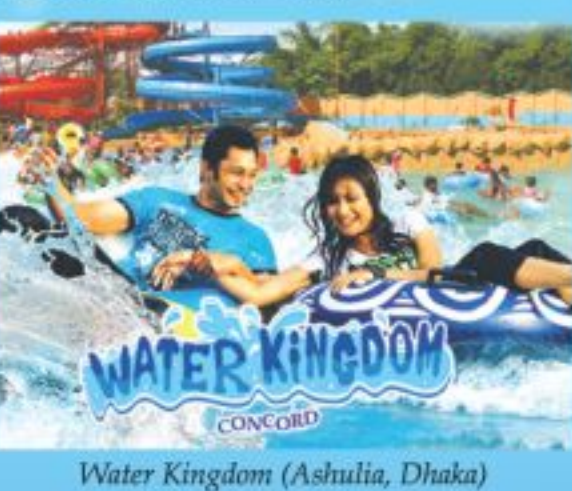
Fantasy Kingdom (Ashulia, Dhaka)



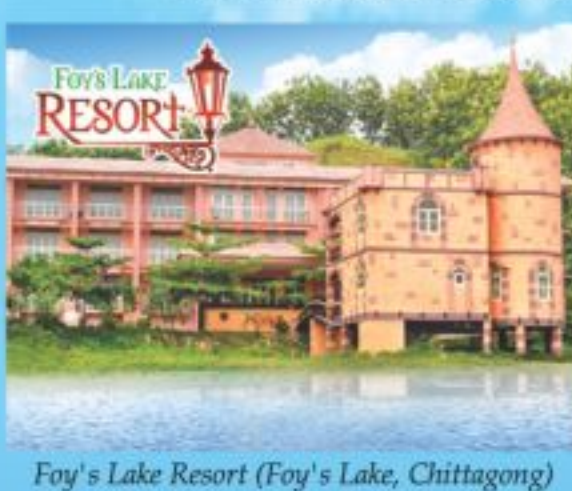
Concord Amusement World, Foy's Lake (Chittagong)



Xtreme Racing (Ashulia, Dhaka)



Water Kingdom (Ashulia, Dhaka)



Foy's Lake Resort (Foy's Lake, Chittagong)



Sea World Concord (Foy's Lake, Chittagong)

Concord is also the pioneer in the entertainment & hospitality industry in Bangladesh and has created a new destination in this sector. Concord has achieved many firsts in this sector: the country's first world-class theme park, water park, go-kart track, theme hotel and full scale luxury resort.

CONCORD GROUP OF COMPANIES

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NATIONAL DAY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA



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

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প্রকৃতির মাঝে আপনার আবাস
@ সেলিমপুর, চট্টগ্রাম

সিডিএ
অনুমোদিত

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রি-টেস্ট করুন
সিলিন্ডার রি-টেস্টিং ইউনিট
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