

UCB
Presents

DHAKA APPAREL SUMMIT

IN ASSOCIATION WITH
Prime Bank

TOGETHER FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

25th February
2017Pan Pacific
Sonargaon Hotel

ORGANIZED BY

IN
COLLABORATION
WITH

HONORABLE PRESIDENT
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
DHAKA



HONORABLE PRIME MINISTER
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

I am very happy to know that Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) is going to organize the second edition of Dhaka Apparel Summit with a theme 'Together for a Better Tomorrow' in Dhaka on 25 February 2017.

One of the prime objectives of our hard-earned independence was to build a happy and prosperous Bangladesh. Macroeconomic stability, steady GDP growth, outstanding performance of remittance and exports, and remarkable social and human development over the years testify that Bangladesh is on the right track of development. We need strong industrial growth in order to maintain the pace of our development and growth. Our ready-made garment industry has capacity and potential of further growth which will drive our economy forward more.

I appreciate BGMEA for organizing the 'Dhaka Apparel Summit' for the second time where global minds, experts, policymakers, brands and suppliers, entrepreneurs, worker representatives will converge to set future priorities and plans towards sustainable growth. I am confident that this event will play a crucial role in devising clear and planned ways to tapping opportunities of the RMG industry, thus helping to achieve the target of USD 50 billion from RMG exports by 2021 at the golden jubilee celebration of our independence.

I wish the Dhaka Apparel Summit a grand success.

Khoda Hafez, May Bangladesh Live Forever.

MD.ABDUL HAMID
President
The People's Republic of Bangladesh



I am pleased to learn that Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) is organizing the second edition of "Dhaka Apparel Summit" in Dhaka on 25 February 2017. BGMEA deserves appreciation for holding this important event at a time when RMG industry needs necessary guidelines to make its foothold stronger and ensure sustainable development.

The RMG sector is one of the important driving forces of Bangladesh's economy as the main source of employment generation and export earnings. The sector accounts for around 81 percent of our total export income and accounts for employment for around 4 million people. The industry is contributing to the economy by stimulating economic activities in related backward linkage industries and various service sectors. The ready-made garment industry has immense potential of growth in the coming years. However, we have to ensure that this development must be sustainable.

In this regard, the Dhaka Apparel Summit will serve as an important platform for global minds, buyers, experts, policymakers, development partners and other stakeholders to discuss all matters relating to the sector and openly frame the strategies for a more sustainable apparel supply chain. I extend my sincere thanks to BGMEA and all the researchers and participants from home and overseas. I hope the "Dhaka Apparel Summit" will end up with practical recommendations and boost research and development initiatives of RMG in Bangladesh.

I wish the Dhaka Apparel Summit a grand success.

Abul Maal A. Muhith, MP
Minister, Ministry of Finance
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

AMIR HOSSAIN AMU, MP
Minister, Ministry of Industries
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

I am happy to know that Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) is going to organize "Dhaka Apparel Summit-2017" at the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel, Dhaka on 25 February, 2017. It is really a praiseworthy venture and I appreciate the organizers for their arduous efforts to hold this important event in the capital city.

Textile & Ready-made Garment is a vital industrial sector of our economy. It has a significant contribution in export earnings, employment generation, value addition as well as improvement of living standard of our common people. About 4.4 million people are working in the sector of which 80 percent are women. It helps the government of Bangladesh a lot in achieving the goal of women empowerment in general and in achieving the targeted level of SDGs in particular. Bangladesh has been witnessing a steady growth of Apparel manufacturing & exports and has now emerged as the second largest apparel exporter in the world. The US\$ 28 billion plus garment industry can achieve a two-fold increase in export in the next three to five years. With such consistent and the enormous growth of the Bangladeshi Apparel Industry, there is an increasing need to forge profitable partnership with global suppliers of various raw materials and machineries including cotton, yarn and fabrics. In this context, arrangement of "Dhaka Apparel Summit" is really an admirable venture. I am confident that this summit would persuade the foreign companies to come forward with their innovative technology, which will widen the scope for entering into a profitable long-term business-to-business (B2B) partnership with the Bangladeshi industrialists in the areas of Green Growth and refined Clean Technology.

I am sure that, with the support of all, we would be able to reach the target of becoming USD 50 billion RMG exporting nations by the year 2021 when Bangladesh would celebrate its 50th founding anniversary.

I wish the summit a grand success.

I am delighted to learn that Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) is organizing the Dhaka Apparel Summit for the second time in Dhaka on 25 February 2017. I would like to thank the BGMEA for holding this august event because useful guidelines for the industry's development are expected to emanate from open discussion of stakeholders.

It is needless to mention the importance of the RMG industry to the development of Bangladesh. The industry has been witnessing phenomenal growth over the last three decades to become the biggest employment generating and foreign exchange earning sector in the country. Growth of this flagship industry has resulted in socio-economic development of the country. The sector is proved to be a strong weapon in our fight against poverty through employment generation.

Given the global market scenario and our underlying strengths, our apparel industry has immense potentials of growth.

We are very optimistic about the future of this sector which has already kept its mark of growth.

The present Government is always supportive to this industry and is sincere in taking initiatives for the development of the apparel sector.

The theme of the Dhaka Apparel Summit "Together for a Better Tomorrow" is really time-befitting.

It is high time we put concerted efforts for development of our RMG industry.

We believe that if we put our hands together, we will be able to ensure sustainable development of our RMG industry.

I wish BGMEA tremendous success of the Dhaka Apparel Summit and hope it turns out to be as positive and beneficial as expected.

Joy Bangla, Joy Bangabandhu.

TOFAIL AHMED, MP
Minister, Ministry of Commerce
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

I am happy to note that the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) is going to hold the Second Dhaka Apparel Summit with a theme 'Together for a Better Tomorrow' on 25 February 2017. After its grand inauguration in 2014, the second edition will also make it an important event in bringing together global experts, buyers, policy makers, researchers and all those associated with the Ready Made Garments sector and will be able to chart out future pathway in this vital sector for Bangladesh's economy.

The recent industrial development of Bangladesh is intertwined with the Ready Made Garment (RMG) industry. RMG sector has become the single largest industry to employ a huge manpower especially women and has made immense contribution to change the lives of millions. Over the years, the industry has brought glory for the country by making "Made in Bangladesh" apparel a prestigious brand globally. Bangladesh has been able to prove itself as a preferred destination of apparel sourcing due to its commitment in quality products, competitive price and meeting buyer's need. Bangladesh RMG is now foraying into newer markets expanding its business every year. The Government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has been encouraging Bangladeshi entrepreneurs to be globally competitive and has taken all required steps to safeguard the industry and develop it further. In recent years, RMG sector has made tremendous progress in achieving required level of workplace safety and environmental sustainability by upgrading various facilities. Now it is time to highlight our achievements and take things forward in order to consolidate our position in the RMG sector. I am confident that the Dhaka Apparel Summit will be able to serve this purpose as stakeholders from home and abroad are expected to participate in this mega event.

I wish the Dhaka Apparel Summit a grand success.
Joy Bangla! Joy Bangabandhu!

ABUL HASSAN MAHMOOD ALI, MP
Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh