



National Day of Switzerland

AMBASSADOR'S MESSAGE



Dr. René Holenstein
Ambassador of Switzerland to Bangladesh

international community has therefore established a framework to promote common solutions: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Central to this international agreement are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) setting out social, economic and environmental milestones to be reached worldwide by 2030. They apply to all countries, including Switzerland and Bangladesh. Switzerland aims to further foster collaboration with Bangladesh on SDGs.

Switzerland's international cooperation with Bangladesh is essentially aligned with Bangladesh's priorities for SDGs. In this spirit, Switzerland will continue to promote human and social capital development in this country as well as the voice and rights of particularly poor and disadvantaged women and men for improving their wellbeing and equal participation in the society. Bangladesh has attained impressive socio-economic achievements over the last decades in various sectors. Bangladesh is often regarded as a "miracle case". Switzerland firmly stands beside Bangladesh in its

journey for a prosperous, inclusive and rights based society, leaving no one behind.

The Embassy of Switzerland recently organised a roundtable event on people's participation, democracy and local governance to talk about features of democracy in Switzerland and Bangladesh. There is no one-size-fits-all approach to democracy. Nevertheless, the universal tenets of democratic practices and the intrinsic values such as consensus-building, citizens' participation, inclusion, gender equality are imperative to uphold democracy and consequently to contribute to achieving the SDGs.

Looking ahead, I strongly believe that Switzerland and Bangladesh will continue to foster closer cooperation in the areas of socio-economic developments. Switzerland has a strong focus on innovation and R&D. Thereby, I see great potentials for Swiss and Bangladeshi companies entering into collaboration to develop technological solutions jointly in the coming years. We need to also identify new areas of economic cooperation, such as clean-tech, biotech and renewable energy etc., where the two countries can mutually benefit from the collaboration. I further hope that Switzerland and Bangladesh will continue to work closely in various multinational fora and face global challenges together.

For the last four and a half decade Switzerland has remained as a strong and committed development and economic partner of Bangladesh introducing innovation, new ideas and solutions. It is my endeavour and honour to contribute to the continuation and strengthening of such good cooperation between our two friendly countries. I take this opportunity to convey my sincere wishes to the people of Bangladesh for development, progress and prosperity.

Switzerland espouses innovation, technology and competitiveness

THREE of Switzerland's strengths are especially prominent: high degree of innovation, supremely educated workforce and first-class scientific research organisations. Cutting-edge technologies and a business-friendly climate also contribute to the country's productivity.

Switzerland invests nearly 3% of its GDP in research and development, one of the highest percentages in the world. More than 60 universities help to ensure the highest level of professional work. They connect with the industry through the exchange of knowledge and technology, the support of innovative start-ups, and the establishment of strong spin-offs.

Almost half of Swiss workers are employed in knowledge-intensive industries. High-tech products form an important pillar of the country's economic success and reputation. Around one quarter of all high-tech products are exported. This underlines the innovation potential of the Swiss economy, which holds a leading position in international rankings. In 2016, more than 7,000 patent applications were filed in Switzerland. This is the fifth highest figure in the world, the third highest in Europe – and it is the highest figure worldwide

per capita. Despite the fact that a big number of major multinational companies are originated in Switzerland, a myriad of small and medium sized enterprises constitute the backbone of the Swiss economy and employ more than two-thirds of

CERN is considered to be one of the most important centers in the world for basic research in physics. It was here, in the late 1980s, that the World Wide Web was developed. Important industry clusters choose to locate their headquarters in Switzerland. Here, they

have their regional or global headquarters here, including major names such as eBay, Google, and Unilever.

Switzerland is home to a unique life sciences cluster. In addition to world's leading chemical and pharmaceutical firms, it encompasses a dense network of medtech, biotech, and nanotech companies. In the industrial sector, the machinery, electrical engineering, and metals industry play a key role. In the region between Geneva and Schaffhausen, a "precision cluster" has developed on the basis of the traditional watchmaking industry. Switzerland is also world-renowned for its financial services industry: Zurich and Geneva are among the world's top 15 financial centers.

Switzerland is also growing in importance as a center of the information and communications industry. Many leading international corporations have set up their presence near Swiss universities and research institutes. The initiative "digitalswitzerland" positions Switzerland as the center for digital innovation in Europe. In the cross-sectoral field of cleantech, Switzerland stands out for its achievements in reducing carbon dioxide emissions and in recycling.



the total workforce.

As an important center of research, Switzerland attracts highly qualified foreign researchers. Several internationally important institutions are based here. For example, the European Organization for Nuclear Research CERN and the Paul Scherrer Institute.

find a solid foundation: an excellent environment for research and development, an efficient registration and certification system, and a highly educated workforce. Switzerland is also a popular, neutral location for European headquarters: over 1,000 multinational firms

*This article is contributed by Switzerland Global Enterprise

Heartiest Felicitation on Swiss National Day

From

Switzerland-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce & Industry



47 Years of Bi-lateral Relationship



KUEHNE+NAGEL



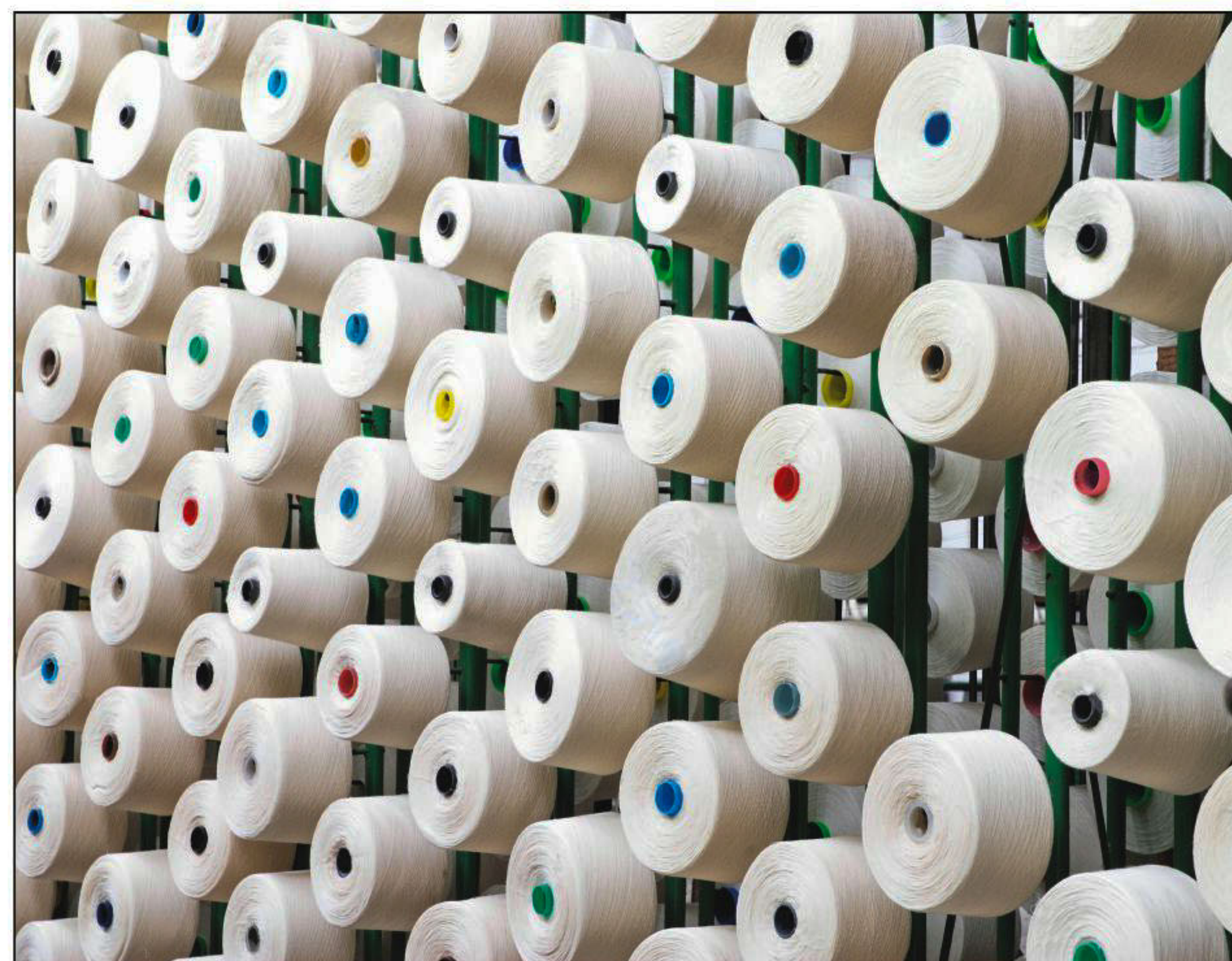
NOVARTIS



syngenta

OUR MEMBERS:

1. ASSOCIATED TECHNOLOGY LTD
2. AAMRA INFOTAINMENT LIMITED
3. ASSL TEXTILE
4. ARIFS (BD) LIMITED
5. AEGIS INTERNATIONAL
6. ABB LIMITED
7. CREATIVE ENGINEERS LTD
8. DAFFODIL TRADING HOUSE LTD
9. DOHATEC NEW MEDIA
10. HASNAT ENTERPRISE
11. HABIB BANK AG ZURICH
12. LAFARGEHOLCIM BANGLADESH LTD
13. M. H. TRADERS
14. M/S. TEXTTOOLS AGENCY LTD
15. NOVARTIS (BANGLADESH) LIMITED
16. NEW ASIA LTD.
17. NESTLÉ BANGLADESH LIMITED
18. ROCHE BANGLADESH LIMITED
19. SGS BANGLADESH LTD
20. SWISS COLOURS BANGLADESH LTD
21. SYNGENTA BANGLADESH LIMITED
22. SANOFI BANGLADESH LTD
23. SECURE LINK SERVICES BD LTD
24. SACO WATCH COMPANY
25. TUTELAR OIL SERVICES CO. (PVT.) LTD
26. TEXXIT BD
27. TEXTILE ASSOCIATES LTD
28. W & W GRAINS CORPORATION
29. XIN BANGLA FABRICS
30. CLARICHEM LTD
31. GIANT GROUP
32. SWISS BIOHYGIENIC EQUIPMENTS LIMITED
33. KUEHNE+NAGEL LTD
34. BABY NUTRITION LTD
35. DIGITAL MEDICAL SYSTEMS LTD
36. R. H. CORPORATION
37. SIKA BANGLADESH LTD
38. ALPHA VISION LTD.



Synchronized speed without losing the thread

From Italy to Bangladesh, manufacturers of textile products are exploiting the benefits provided by the latest ABB drives, motors and PLCs. With proven reliability, availability and a high efficiency, ABB drives, motors and PLCs offer fast control and speed synchronization, while helping to grow revenues and lower downtime. Even hydraulic and pneumatic systems are being replaced with the latest ABB drives and motors. To find out how ABB can improve your productivity, visit www.abb.com

