

Plastic industry can help diversify exports: commerce adviser

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Plastic products have a lot of potential in diversifying Bangladesh's export basket, said Sk Bashir Uddin, adviser to the commerce and jute and textile ministries, yesterday.

State policies on the production, use, and disposal of plastics must be formulated based on ground realities alongside global practices, he said.

It is essential to promote ways to responsibly deal with plastic, such as a lifecycle approach to identify and consider all potential impacts at each stage of the value chain, he added.

The adviser was addressing the inauguration of the four-day 17th International Plastic, Packaging, and Printing Industrial Fair at International Convention City Bashundhara in Dhaka.

Bangladesh is set to graduate from a least developed country (LDC) to a developing one in November 2026, said Sk Bashir Uddin.

This will lead to the loss of preferential access to export markets for the country, while exporters will no longer be eligible for government incentives, he said.

The nation must enhance its capabilities in export competitiveness by improving productivity and reducing production costs to navigate this transition, he cautioned.

Following the inauguration, the commerce adviser toured the fair, which has been jointly organised by the Bangladesh Plastic Manufacturers and



Visitors are seen in front of a stall at the International Plastic, Packaging and Printing Industrial Fair at International Convention City Bashundhara in Dhaka yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Exporters Association (BPGMEA) and Hong Kong-based Yorkers Trade and Marketing Service Company Limited.

This year, the fair is featuring over 800 stalls, with more than 390 brands from 18 countries, including China, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Vietnam, the United

Arab Emirates, Turkey, and the UK.

The fair will remain open to visitors from 11:00am to 7:00pm.

The inauguration ceremony was presided over by KM Iqbal Hossain, senior vice president of the BPGMEA.

Sheikh Md Abdur Rahman, deputy

project director of the government's Export Competitiveness for Jobs Project, Akai Lin, overseas director of Yorkers, Md Jashim Uddin, president of the SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Shamim Ahmed, president of the BPGMEA, also spoke.

US inflation fight to take time: Fed official

AFP, Washington

The US Federal Reserve is in a strong position to weather the "highly uncertain" economic outlook, but its inflation fight will take time to win, a senior US central bank official said Tuesday.

"As we enter 2025, the economy is in a good place," New York Fed President John Williams told a conference in New York, according to prepared remarks. "Growth has remained solid, supported by robust consumer spending."

"From where we are now, a number of signs indicate that inflation will continue to move toward our two percent longer-run goal," added Williams, a permanent voting member of the US central bank's rate-setting committee, referring to the Fed's long-term

inflation target.

But, he noted, "it will take time before we can achieve that target on a sustained basis," adding he did not expect inflation to reach the Fed's two percent target this year.

Williams joined his colleagues last month to vote for a pause in cuts after three straight rate reductions, holding the Fed's key lending rate between 4.25 and 4.50 percent.

The Fed's short-term federal funds rate influences borrowing costs for consumers and businesses, affecting the price of everything from mortgages to car loans.

Williams warned that, despite the strong fundamentals, "the economic outlook remains highly uncertain, particularly around potential fiscal, trade, immigration, and regulatory policies," a passing reference to some

of US President Donald Trump's policies.

Since taking office last month, Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on US allies and top trading partners including Mexico, Canada, and the European Union, and imposed a sweeping 10 percent duty on goods from China -- the world's second-largest economy.

He has also said he wants to carry out the largest program of mass deportation of illegal immigrants in American history, something many economists have said could hurt growth.

People in Trump's orbit insist that, properly implemented, any negative impact from his tariff and immigration plans should be more than offset by a deregulation and tax-cutting agenda, which they see as pro-growth and anti-inflation.

of US President Donald Trump's policies.

Since taking office last month, Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on US allies and top trading partners including Mexico, Canada, and the European Union, and imposed a sweeping 10 percent duty on goods from China -- the world's second-largest economy.

He has also said he wants to carry out the largest program of mass deportation of illegal immigrants in American history, something many economists have said could hurt growth.

People in Trump's orbit insist that, properly implemented, any negative impact from his tariff and immigration plans should be more than offset by a deregulation and tax-cutting agenda, which they see as pro-growth and anti-inflation.

of US President Donald Trump's policies.

Since taking office last month, Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on US allies and top trading partners including Mexico, Canada, and the European Union, and imposed a sweeping 10 percent duty on goods from China -- the world's second-largest economy.

He has also said he wants to carry out the largest program of mass deportation of illegal immigrants in American history, something many economists have said could hurt growth.

People in Trump's orbit insist that, properly implemented, any negative impact from his tariff and immigration plans should be more than offset by a deregulation and tax-cutting agenda, which they see as pro-growth and anti-inflation.

of US President Donald Trump's policies.

Since taking office last month, Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on US allies and top trading partners including Mexico, Canada, and the European Union, and imposed a sweeping 10 percent duty on goods from China -- the world's second-largest economy.

He has also said he wants to carry out the largest program of mass deportation of illegal immigrants in American history, something many economists have said could hurt growth.

People in Trump's orbit insist that, properly implemented, any negative impact from his tariff and immigration plans should be more than offset by a deregulation and tax-cutting agenda, which they see as pro-growth and anti-inflation.

of US President Donald Trump's policies.

Since taking office last month, Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on US allies and top trading partners including Mexico, Canada, and the European Union, and imposed a sweeping 10 percent duty on goods from China -- the world's second-largest economy.

He has also said he wants to carry out the largest program of mass deportation of illegal immigrants in American history, something many economists have said could hurt growth.

People in Trump's orbit insist that, properly implemented, any negative impact from his tariff and immigration plans should be more than offset by a deregulation and tax-cutting agenda, which they see as pro-growth and anti-inflation.

of US President Donald Trump's policies.

Since taking office last month, Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on US allies and top trading partners including Mexico, Canada, and the European Union, and imposed a sweeping 10 percent duty on goods from China -- the world's second-largest economy.

He has also said he wants to carry out the largest program of mass deportation of illegal immigrants in American history, something many economists have said could hurt growth.

People in Trump's orbit insist that, properly implemented, any negative impact from his tariff and immigration plans should be more than offset by a deregulation and tax-cutting agenda, which they see as pro-growth and anti-inflation.

of US President Donald Trump's policies.

Since taking office last month, Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on US allies and top trading partners including Mexico, Canada, and the European Union, and imposed a sweeping 10 percent duty on goods from China -- the world's second-largest economy.

He has also said he wants to carry out the largest program of mass deportation of illegal immigrants in American history, something many economists have said could hurt growth.

People in Trump's orbit insist that, properly implemented, any negative impact from his tariff and immigration plans should be more than offset by a deregulation and tax-cutting agenda, which they see as pro-growth and anti-inflation.

of US President Donald Trump's policies.

Since taking office last month, Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on US allies and top trading partners including Mexico, Canada, and the European Union, and imposed a sweeping 10 percent duty on goods from China -- the world's second-largest economy.

He has also said he wants to carry out the largest program of mass deportation of illegal immigrants in American history, something many economists have said could hurt growth.

People in Trump's orbit insist that, properly implemented, any negative impact from his tariff and immigration plans should be more than offset by a deregulation and tax-cutting agenda, which they see as pro-growth and anti-inflation.

of US President Donald Trump's policies.

Since taking office last month, Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on US allies and top trading partners including Mexico, Canada, and the European Union, and imposed a sweeping 10 percent duty on goods from China -- the world's second-largest economy.

He has also said he wants to carry out the largest program of mass deportation of illegal immigrants in American history, something many economists have said could hurt growth.

People in Trump's orbit insist that, properly implemented, any negative impact from his tariff and immigration plans should be more than offset by a deregulation and tax-cutting agenda, which they see as pro-growth and anti-inflation.

of US President Donald Trump's policies.

Since taking office last month, Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on US allies and top trading partners including Mexico, Canada, and the European Union, and imposed a sweeping 10 percent duty on goods from China -- the world's second-largest economy.

He has also said he wants to carry out the largest program of mass deportation of illegal immigrants in American history, something many economists have said could hurt growth.

People in Trump's orbit insist that, properly implemented, any negative impact from his tariff and immigration plans should be more than offset by a deregulation and tax-cutting agenda, which they see as pro-growth and anti-inflation.

of US President Donald Trump's policies.

Since taking office last month, Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on US allies and top trading partners including Mexico, Canada, and the European Union, and imposed a sweeping 10 percent duty on goods from China -- the world's second-largest economy.

He has also said he wants to carry out the largest program of mass deportation of illegal immigrants in American history, something many economists have said could hurt growth.

People in Trump's orbit insist that, properly implemented, any negative impact from his tariff and immigration plans should be more than offset by a deregulation and tax-cutting agenda, which they see as pro-growth and anti-inflation.

of US President Donald Trump's policies.

Since taking office last month, Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on US allies and top trading partners including Mexico, Canada, and the European Union, and imposed a sweeping 10 percent duty on goods from China -- the world's second-largest economy.

He has also said he wants to carry out the largest program of mass deportation of illegal immigrants in American history, something many economists have said could hurt growth.

People in Trump's orbit insist that, properly implemented, any negative impact from his tariff and immigration plans should be more than offset by a deregulation and tax-cutting agenda, which they see as pro-growth and anti-inflation.

of US President Donald Trump's policies.

Since taking office last month, Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on US allies and top trading partners including Mexico, Canada, and the European Union, and imposed a sweeping 10 percent duty on goods from China -- the world's second-largest economy.

He has also said he wants to carry out the largest program of mass deportation of illegal immigrants in American history, something many economists have said could hurt growth.

People in Trump's orbit insist that, properly implemented, any negative impact from his tariff and immigration plans should be more than offset by a deregulation and tax-cutting agenda, which they see as pro-growth and anti-inflation.

of US President Donald Trump's policies.

Since taking office last month, Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on US allies and top trading partners including Mexico, Canada, and the European Union, and imposed a sweeping 10 percent duty on goods from China -- the world's second-largest economy.

He has also said he wants to carry out the largest program of mass deportation of illegal immigrants in American history, something many economists have said could hurt growth.

People in Trump's orbit insist that, properly implemented, any negative impact from his tariff and immigration plans should be more than offset by a deregulation and tax-cutting agenda, which they see as pro-growth and anti-inflation.

of US President Donald Trump's policies.

Since taking office last month, Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on US allies and top trading partners including Mexico, Canada, and the European Union, and imposed a sweeping 10 percent duty on goods from China -- the world's second-largest economy.

He has also said he wants to carry out the largest program of mass deportation of illegal immigrants in American history, something many economists have said could hurt growth.

People in Trump's orbit insist that, properly implemented, any negative impact from his tariff and immigration plans should be more than offset by a deregulation and tax-cutting agenda, which they see as pro-growth and anti-inflation.

of US President Donald Trump's policies.

Since taking office last month, Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on US allies and top trading partners including Mexico, Canada, and the European Union, and imposed a sweeping 10 percent duty on goods from China -- the world's second-largest economy.

He has also said he wants to carry out the largest program of mass deportation of illegal immigrants in American history, something many economists have said could hurt growth.

People in Trump's orbit insist that, properly implemented, any negative impact from his tariff and immigration plans should be more than offset by a deregulation and tax-cutting agenda, which they see as pro-growth and anti-inflation.

of US President Donald Trump's policies.

Since taking office last month, Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on US allies and top trading partners including Mexico, Canada, and the European Union, and imposed a sweeping 10 percent duty on goods from China -- the world's second-largest economy.

He has also said he wants to carry out the largest program of mass deportation of illegal immigrants in American history, something many economists have said could hurt growth.

People in Trump's orbit insist that, properly implemented, any negative impact from his tariff and immigration plans should be more than offset by a deregulation and tax-cutting agenda, which they see as pro-growth and anti-inflation.

of US President Donald Trump's policies.

Since taking office last month, Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on US allies and top trading partners including Mexico, Canada, and the European Union, and imposed a sweeping 10 percent duty on goods from China -- the world's second-largest economy.

He has also said he wants to carry out the largest program of mass deportation of illegal immigrants in American history, something many economists have said could hurt growth.

People in Trump's orbit insist that, properly implemented, any negative impact from his tariff and immigration plans should be more than offset by a deregulation and tax-cutting agenda, which they see as pro-growth and anti-inflation.

of US President Donald Trump's policies.

Since taking office last month, Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on US allies and top trading partners including Mexico, Canada, and the European Union, and imposed a sweeping 10 percent duty on goods from China -- the world's second-largest economy.

He has also said he wants to carry out the largest program of mass deportation of illegal immigrants in American history, something many economists have said could hurt growth.

People in Trump's orbit insist that, properly implemented, any negative impact from his tariff and immigration plans should be more than offset by a deregulation and tax-cutting agenda, which they see as pro-growth and anti-inflation.

of US President Donald Trump's policies.

Since taking office last month, Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on US allies and top trading partners including Mexico, Canada, and the European Union, and imposed a sweeping 10 percent duty on goods from China -- the world's second-largest economy.

He has also said he wants to carry out the largest program of mass deportation of illegal immigrants in American history, something many economists have said could hurt growth.

People in Trump's orbit insist that, properly implemented, any negative impact from his tariff and immigration plans should be more than offset by a deregulation and tax-cutting agenda, which they see as pro-growth and anti-inflation.

of US President Donald Trump's policies.

Since taking office last month, Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on US allies and top trading partners including Mexico, Canada, and the European Union, and imposed a sweeping 10 percent duty on goods from China -- the world's second-largest economy.

He has also said he wants to carry out the largest program of mass deportation of illegal immigrants in American history, something many economists have said could hurt growth.

People in Trump's orbit insist that, properly implemented, any negative impact from his tariff and immigration plans should be more than offset by a deregulation and tax-cutting agenda, which they see as pro-growth and anti-inflation.

of US President Donald Trump's policies.

Since taking office last month, Trump