Bangladesh eyes $10b trade with Indonesia

BSS, *Dhaka*

Bangladesh wants to raise bilateral trade with Indonesia to more than $10 billion by reducing the existing trade gap and expanding exports of readymade garments, pharmaceuticals and agricultural products.

Commerce Minister Khandakar Abdul Muktadir made the remarks during a meeting with Indonesian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Anis Matta at the Commerce Ministry in Dhaka yesterday, said a press release.

The commerce minister said bilateral trade currently stands at around $4 billion annually, with Bangladesh importing goods worth about $3.5 billion from Indonesia, while its exports to the country amount to only around $56 million.

He stressed the need to increase Bangladesh's exports to Indonesia to narrow the huge trade imbalance.

"Bangladesh-Indonesia bilateral trade can be increased to more than $10 billion if barriers to market access are removed," the minister said.

The two sides discussed advancing negotiations on the proposed Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) and Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), energy cooperation, mutual recognition of halal certification, and greater market access for Bangladeshi potatoes, pharmaceuticals and vaccines.

The commerce minister said Bangladesh produces internationally competitive pharmaceutical products and exports them to more than 100 countries.

He sought Indonesia's cooperation in reducing procedural complexities, including drug registration requirements, to facilitate greater access for Bangladeshi pharmaceutical products to the Indonesian market.

The Indonesian deputy foreign minister welcomed Bangladesh's proposal to organise a solo exhibition of Bangladeshi pharmaceutical products in Jakarta and assured cooperation in arranging the event.

The two countries have held four rounds of discussions on a PTA, but negotiations have remained stalled since 2023 due to differences over duty-free market access for Bangladesh's readymade garment products.

The Indonesian deputy foreign minister said that although the textile and apparel sectors of the two countries are competitors, the existing issues should be identified and addressed through mutual efforts.

He proposed a ministerial-level meeting on the sidelines of an international trade exhibition to be held in Indonesia from October 14 to 18.

He also invited the Bangladesh commerce minister and a delegation to attend the exhibition.

The meeting also discussed Indonesia's state-owned oil and gas company Pertamina's proposed operation of Bangladesh's Single Point Mooring (SPM) terminal.

The two sides also discussed the possibility of increasing coal imports from Indonesia for Bangladesh's coal-fired power plants.

The commerce minister proposed mutual recognition of laboratory test results to resolve testing and registration-related complications affecting Bangladesh's potato exports to Indonesia.

Bangladesh attempted to export potatoes to Indonesia during 2015-2019, but the initiative could not progress due to such complications.



Sazzad Al Noman, managing partner of M4 Autos Ltd, and Takiyan Chowdhury, executive vice-president of the secured consumer financing and embedded payments of Prime Bank PLC, pose for a photograph after signing the agreement at the automobile company's corporate office in Baridhara, Dhaka recently. PHOTO: **PRIME BANK**

Prime Bank clients to enjoy service offers from M4 Autos

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Prime Bank PLC has signed an agreement with M4 Autos Ltd, a Dhaka-based automobile company, to provide service offers to the bank's customers.

Takiyan Chowdhury, executive vice-president of secured consumer financing and embedded payments at the bank, and Sazzad Al Noman, managing partner of the automobile company, signed the agreement at the latter's corporate office in Baridhara, Dhaka recently, according to a press release.

Under the agreement, Prime Bank customers will be entitled to exclusive service offers from M4 Autos, further enhancing the range of privileges and value-added services available to the bank's customers.

The partnership reflects the commitment of both organisations to creating greater value for customers through strategic collaboration and exclusive service benefits, the release added.

Md Zahirul Haque, senior manager of HR and administration at M4 Autos, was also present at the signing ceremony, along with senior officials from both organisations.



Sk Bashir Uddin, managing director of AkijBashir Group, inaugurates Akij Ceramics' new showroom in Shimultola, Savar yesterday. PHOTO: **AKIJBASHIR GROUP**

Akij Ceramics opens showroom in Savar

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Akij Ceramics, a business unit of AkijBashir Group, yesterday launched a new showroom, "M/S Fatema Tiles & Sanitary", in Shimultola, Savar, further expanding its presence and bringing its latest collections closer to customers.

Sk Bashir Uddin, managing director of AkijBashir Group, inaugurated the showroom as the chief guest, according to a press release.

The showroom features the latest tile collections from Akij Ceramics, along with new sanitaryware and bathware collections from Rosa and a range of doors from Akij Door.

Modern furniture, lighting and display arrangements create a refined and convenient retail experience.

With more than 200 showrooms nationwide, Akij Ceramics continues to expand its retail presence.

A seven-time winner of the Best Brand Award and a two-time winner of the Superbrands Award, the brand remains committed to its "Promise of Perfection", bringing quality, design and better service closer to customers, the release added.

Among others, Shamsuddin Ahmed, deputy managing director of AkijBashir Group; Mohammed Ashraful Haque, senior general manager of Akij Ceramics; Mohammad Razaul Islam Shiddique, senior general manager of Rosa; Md Hossain Shah Newaz, head of marketing of AkijBashir Group; and Kazi Md Jakaria Shiblu, proprietor of the showroom, along with officials of AkijBashir Group, local business leaders and distinguished guests, were also present.

Dhaka South City Corporation
Office of the Executive Engineer
Mechanical Circle, Dhalpur, Jatrabari, Dhaka-1203.
www.dscc.gov.bd

Memo No. 46.207.007.09.25.015.2026 Date: 07/10/2026

e-Tender Notice

This is to notify for all concern that the following tender has been published in e-GP portal:

Sl. No.	Package No.	Identification of Lot	Tender ID No.	Last Selling Date & Time	Last Dropping Date & Time
1	egpdsccmech-041/2026-27	Supply of Brand New 03 (Nos.) Mini Coaster Bus.	1345003	28/10/2026 up to 4:00 PM	29/10/2026 up to 12:00 PM
2	egpdsccmech-042/2026-27	Supply Of Required Paint For Road Marking Works Including Zebra Crossing, Speed Breaker On Important Roads Under Dhaka South City Corporation.	1345005	28/10/2026 up to 4:00 PM	29/10/2026 up to 12:00 PM

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP system portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered Bank's Branches.
Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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(Dr. Md. Shah Alam Bhuiyan)
Executive Engineer
Mechanical Circle
e-mail: alomdcc@gmail.com

GD-2444

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Finance Division, Ministry of Finance
Skills for Industry Competitiveness and Innovation Program (SICIP)
Probashi Kallyan Bhaban (15th Floor)
71-72 Eskaton Garden, Ramna, Dhaka-1000
www.sicip.gov.bd

FD/SICIP/PIU Recruitment/101/2024-**3133** Date: **22** Ashwin 1433 / **07** October 2026

Recruitment Notice

Ministry/Division	:	Ministry of Finance
Agency	:	Finance Division
Program Name	:	Skills for Industry Competitiveness and Innovation Program (SICIP)
Scheme Name	:	Expansion of Skills for Employment and Socially Inclusive Training for Priority and Emerging Sectors.
INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT		
Position	**No.**	**Minimum Qualification and Experience**
Program Implementation Unit (PIU) for SICIP-REHAB		
Coordinator (Finance & Procurement)	1	• Master's in Accounting/Finance or MBA majoring in Finance or Accounting. • At least 10 years' working experience in relevant field. • Experience in skills development fields will be preferred. • Strong communication, interpersonal and computer skills.
Application Closing Date and Time	:	Applications shall be submitted to the office of the Executive Program Director on or before 3.00 pm by **25 October 2026** in sealed envelope clearly marked "**Application for the Selection of [Name of Position]**". Contact address with email and mobile number of the applicant should be written on the left side of the **A4 Size Envelope**. Necessary documents in support of educational qualifications, experiences and skills have to be submitted.
Name and Designation of Official Inviting Recruitment	:	Mohammed Walid Hossain Executive Program Director Skills for Industry Competitiveness and Innovation Program (SICIP)
Address of official Inviting Recruitment	:	Probashi Kallyan Bhaban (15th Floor) 71-72 Eskaton Garden, Ramna, Dhaka-1000.
Contact details of official Inviting Recruitment	:	Phone: +880255138753~5 Ext: 100 E-mail: epd.sicip@gmail.com
The recruitment entity reserves all the right to accept or reject any or all the Application without assigning any reasons whatsoever.		

Mohammed Walid Hossain
Executive Program Director (EPD)
Skills for Industry Competitiveness and Innovation Program (SICIP)
Finance Division, Ministry of Finance
Probashi Kallyan Bhaban (15th Floor), 71-72 Eskaton Garden, Ramna, Dhaka.

GD-2429

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Project Director
Rehabilitation of Kulaura-Shahbazpur Section of Bangladesh Railway
Kamalapur, Dhaka.

No: 54.01.0000.691.33.004.18-290 Date: 05.10.2026

Re-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP Portal (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of following Goods/works.

Name of Goods/Works/Services	Tender/ Proposal ID	Publishing Date and Time	Last Selling Date and Time	Closing Date and Time
Supply and installation of OFC based Telecommunication System including all materials, labour and transportation costs etc between Kulaura-Shahbazpur section.	1346177	08-October-2026 10:00	27-October-2026 11:45	27-October -2026 12:00

Only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hand copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP Portal (https://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. The fees for Downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP Portal must be deposited online through any registered banks branches.

05.10.2026

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GD-2437