

# The Daily Star

WEDNESDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER 2022

## Invest more in Bangladesh

### DCCI urges Hong Kong businesses

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Hong Kong has become one of the top 10 foreign investors in Bangladesh, pouring \$1.8 billion till date mainly in the textile and energy sectors, said Rizwan Rahman, president of the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry (DCCI), yesterday.

Bilateral trade has already reached over \$1 billion, he told a seminar on "Exploring business and investment opportunities for Bangladesh via Hong Kong" jointly organised by the DCCI and Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) at Lakeshore Hotel.

Taking inspiration from the investment successes and ties, others can explore potentials, he said.

Hong Kong is an important centre for international finance and trade for the Asia-Pacific region, enabling businesses to tap massive opportunities, Rahman

said, urging entrepreneurs in Hong Kong to invest more in Bangladesh.

Bangladesh's upcoming United Nations status graduation from least developed to developing country will subsequently necessitate foreign investment, especially in infrastructure, financial, service and manufacturing sectors, said Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi.

Bangladesh has a good demographic dividend, skilled workforce and congenial investment environment. "Try Bangladesh for investment," he added.

Hong Kong is a trusted partner for Bangladesh, he said, hoping for more companies from this special administrative region of China to come to Bangladesh.

If more companies from Hong Kong come to Bangladesh, including under public-private partnership models, it will enable technology transfers, said Sharifa Khan, secretary to Economic Relations Division, pointing out Bangladesh's efforts at developing ports and logistics.

**Hong Kong is an important centre for international finance and trade for the Asia-Pacific region, enabling businesses to tap massive opportunities, says DCCI chief**



# Hong Kong investments sought for logistics sector

INVESTMENT - BANGLADESH

TBS REPORT

## The logistic sector is untapped in Bangladesh, so Hong Kong may invest in it

Bangladesh has sought investments in its logistics sector from Hong Kong.

At a programme – Exploring business and investment opportunities for Bangladesh via Hong Kong – speakers urged investors from Hong Kong to invest in Bangladesh owing to its pro-investment environment.

They also said Bangladesh has set up 100 economic zones where various facilities are being provided for investors.

At the event in a city hotel organised by the Dhaka Chambers of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) and Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC), Economics Relations Division Secretary Sharifa Khan said there was a big gap in business and trade between Bangladesh and Hong Kong which was an opportunity.

“So, businesses should look for business opportunities and work together to fully utilise those,” she said.

Sharifa also added that Bangladesh was a manufacturing hub and as the two shared many business entities, they could work together.

“We urge Hong Kong authorities to train our educated people. You are good in logistics and technology so we want your support,” she said.

Speaking as the special guest, she said Hong Kong has an opportunity to invest in Bangladesh which is offering the largest export-oriented economic zones.

The logistic sector is untapped in Bangladesh, so Hong Kong may invest in it.

In a presentation, Rajesh Bhagat, consultant South Asia, HKTDC, said ready made garments, textiles, light engineering, leather and jute goods were promising sectors for foreign investors.

Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority executive member Mohammad Ifran Sharif said, “We are going to establish 100 economic zones to attract foreign direct investment, while the Mirsarai Economic Zone is the one of the largest economic cities in Asia.”

The government is offering different types of fiscal policy support for investors, he added.

Around 75% of the land has already been leased to investors from home and abroad, of which three have already seen production taking place.

Four government-to-government economic zones are also under construction or under process, he added.

Hong Kong is the 20th largest export destination for Bangladesh, said the BEZA executive member.

Janandrenath Sarkar, additional secretary ministry of commerce, said under the government’s policy, FDI is appreciated.

Investors will get a five-year visa through investing at least \$1 million. If the investment is \$10 million, investors will have no visa requirements facility.

Chief Guest Tipu Munshi, MP, Minister, Ministry of Commerce, said a lot of Indian businesses were willing to invest in Bangladesh and they demonstrated that last week’s visit by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Any investment in Bangladesh will also be an opportunity to export to all over the world, he said, adding that the Seven Sisters states in India were a good export destination from Bangladesh.

Arman Haque, senior vice president, DCCI delivered the concluding remarks at the event moderated by DCCI President Rizwan Rahman.



# Bangladesh-Hong Kong trade opportunities still untapped: Speakers

**Staff Correspondent**

There are huge trade opportunities between Bangladesh and Hong Kong which is still untapped due to the lack of ample initiatives, said speakers at a seminar.

In the changing economic context, Bangladeshi and foreign investors can explore mutual investment and trade opportunities via Hong Kong in promising industries in different parts of the world including China and vice versa.

Speakers came up with the statements at a seminar titled ‘Exploring business and investment opportunities for Bangladesh via Hong Kong’ jointly organised by Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry (DCCI) and Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HK-TDC) at a hotel in Dhaka on Monday.

In his speech as the chief guest, Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi said, “Bangladesh is going to be graduated from LDC status and for that we need foreign investment, especially in the infrastructure, financial, service and manufacturing sectors.”

He said that Bangladesh has a good demographic dividend, skilled workforce and congenial investment environment. “The government has made reforms and it is a continuous process. If any reforms are needed to expedite trade and business, the government will do it immediately.”

The minister also said that Hong Kong is a trusted partner of Bangladesh.

He said that a lot of Indian investors have shown interest in investing in Bangladesh during his India visit with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. However, he hoped that more Hong Kong companies will come to Bangladesh for investment.

Speaking as the special guest, Finance ministry’s Economic Relations Division Secretary Sharifa Khan said, “The existing trade gap between the two countries is a great opportunity for future business. Bangladesh is a manufacturing hub. And Hong Kong has huge business entities.”

“So we can work together. We invite Hong Kong investors to operate in Bangladesh as our market is a big one in this region. If more Hong Kong companies come to Bangladesh, it will help us in technology transfer,” she pointed out.

DCCI President Rizwan Rahman said, “Hong Kong is predominantly an ideal and important centre for international finance and trade for the Asia-Pacific region and mainland which enables businesses to tap into massive opportunities.”

“Bangladesh has an eco-system for investment. And Hong Kong, the global business hub, has been the gateway between businesses in China and the outside world and Asia’s trade-fair and convention hub attracting many international businesses through various timely exhibitions, events and other trade-related events. We can get access to untapped opportunities,” he added.

“Hong Kong has become one of the trusted top 10 foreign investors in Bangladesh with \$1.8 billion investment till date in textile and energy sector and bilateral trade had reached over \$1 billion earlier,” he further said.

HKTDC South Asia Consultant Rajesh Bhagat highlighted that Hong Kong has a very simple tax and customs procedures. There are no sales tax and no custom tariff. He said that about 66 per cent of the mainland’s outward FDI goes to or via Hong Kong.

“In 2020, total trade between Bangladesh and Hong Kong was \$1.41 billion where Bangladesh’s import was \$1.28 billion and export was \$126.7 million,” he informed.

He also stated that Bangladesh is giving good incentive packages to foreign investors and various reforms by the government will be helpful for them.

Additional Secretary of Industries ministry Janendra Nath Sarker and Additional Secretary of Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (BEZA) Mohammad Erfan Sharif also spoke at the seminar.



## Bangladesh has scope for raising global business thru Hong Kong: businesses

Staff Correspondent

BUSINESSES have said that Bangladesh has a huge potential to increase its investment and trade with major economies through Hong Kong as the global business hub is the ideal channel for mainland Chinese outbound investments.

They made the observation at a seminar organised by the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council at the Lakeshore Hotel in the capital Dhaka on Monday.

The title of the seminar was 'exploring business and investment opportunities for Bangladesh via Hong Kong'. Rizwan Rahman, president of the DCCI, said that Hong Kong, a market-oriented free economy, was predominantly an ideal and important centre for international finance and trade for the Asia-Pacific region and mainland, which enabled businesses to tap massive opportunities.

He said that Hong Kong was the gateway between businesses in China and the outside world and the Asia's trade-fair and convention hub attracting many international businesses through various timely exhibitions, events and other trade-related events.

'Taking the investment success instance and economic tie of Bangladesh and Hong Kong into account, Bangladeshi and foreign investors can explore mutual investment and trade opportunities in promising industries via Hong Kong in different parts of the world, including China, vice versa in the changing economic context,' Rizwan said.

Hong Kong has become one of the trusted top 10 foreign investors in Bangladesh with \$1.8 billion investment mainly in the textile and energy sector, DCCI president said.

Rajesh Bhagat, consultant of Hong Kong Trade Development Council, presented the keynote paper in the seminar that said there were wide-ranging manufacturing

and service sectors in Bangladesh for investment with a huge potential.

Considering the local and international market demand, other potential and relevant investment factors, readymade garments, shipbuilding, pharmaceuticals, agriculture, leather and footwear, ICT, light engineering, logistics and infrastructure sectors are the highly potential and rewarding for foreign investment, he said.

Rajesh said that about 66 per cent of mainland's outward FDI went to or via Hong Kong.

According to the presentation, in 2020 total trade between Bangladesh and Hong Kong was \$1.41 billion where Bangladesh's import was \$1.28 billion and export was \$126.7 million.

Commerce minister Tipu Munshi said that Bangladesh needed foreign investment especially in the infrastructure, financial, service and manufacturing sector as the country was going to be graduated from LDC status.

'Not only the reforms the government has made, but it is a continuous process. If any reform is needed to expedite trade and business, the government will do it immediately,' he said.

The commerce minister hoped that more Hong Kong companies would come to Bangladesh in future.

Finance ministry economic relations division secretary Sharifa Khan said that if more Hong Kong companies came to Bangladesh, it would help the country for technology transfer.

'We are developing ports and logistic sector and Hong Kong companies may come to invest as PPP basis as well,' she said.

Industries ministry additional secretary Janendra Nath Sarker and executive member of Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority Mohammed Erfan Sharif, among others, spoke at the event.



WEDNESDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER 2022

# Bangladesh now a good place for foreign investment

*Says Tipu Munshi calling for foreign investment, especially in infrastructure, financial, service and manufacturing sectors*

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi urged the foreign investors to increase and make new investments in Bangladesh highlighting that the country has possessed a good demographic dividend, skilled workforce and congenial investment environment.

He was addressing a seminar styled "Exploring business and investment opportunities for Bangladesh via Hong Kong" organised jointly by the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry (DCCI) and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) in Dhaka on Monday.

The commerce minister said Bangladesh is going to be graduated from the least developed country (LDC) status and needs foreign investment, especially in the infrastructure, financial, service and manufacturing sectors, to meet the upcoming challenges.

"Reforms have been made. But this is a continuous process. If any further reforms are needed to expedite trade and business, the government will do that immediately," he said.

Tipu Munshi said that Hong Kong is a trusted partner for Bangladesh and hoped that in future more Hong Kong companies will come to Bangladesh with investment.

Economic Relations Division secretary Sharifa Khan was present at the event as a special guest, chaired by DCCI President Rizwan Rahman.

The seminar was organised with a view to discussing the likely issues on investment and trade potentials for Bangladesh and major economies through the Hong Kong channel for deeper global economic fraternity.

In his opening remarks, DCCI President Rizwan Rahman said Hong Kong, a market-oriented free economy, is predominantly an ideal and important centre for international finance and trade for the Asia-Pacific region and mainland China which enable businesses to tap massive opportunities.

Hong Kong, the global business hub, has been the gateway between businesses in China and the outside world, he said, adding that it has been Asia's trade fair and convention hub attracting many international businesses through various timely exhibitions, events and other trade-related events.

"Hong Kong has become one of the trusted top 10 foreign investors in Bangladesh with \$1.8 billion investment till date mainly in the textile and energy sectors, with trade reaching over \$1 billion earlier," said DCCI leader.

Taking the investment success instance and economic tie of Bangladesh and Hong Kong into account, Bangladeshi and foreign investors can explore mutual investment and trade opportunities in promising industries via Hong Kong in different parts of the world including China vice versa in the changing economic context.

Economic Relations Division secretary Sharifa Khan said that the existing trade gap between Bangladesh and Hong Kong is also a great opportunity for future business.

"Hong Kong is good in the financial sector," she said, inviting them to launch operations in Bangladesh. She also said that if more Hong Kong companies come to Bangladesh, it will help us for technology transfer.

"We are developing the port and logistics sector. The Hong Kong companies may come to invest under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) basis as well," Sharifa Khan said.

Rajesh Bhagat, Consultant South Asia of Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC), presented the keynote paper.

He highlighted that Hong Kong has very simple tax and customs procedures and there are no sales tax and custom tariffs. He said that about 66 percent of mainland China's outward foreign direct investment (FDI) goes to or via Hong Kong.

In 2020, total trade between Bangladesh and Hong Kong was \$1.41 billion where Bangladesh's import was \$1.28 billion and export was \$126.7 million.

Bhagat said that Bangladesh is giving good incentive packages to the foreign investors, and various reforms taken by the government will benefit foreign investors.

Additional secretary at the Ministry of Industries Janendra Nath Sarker and Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (BEZA) additional secretary Mohammad Erfan Sharif also discussed as designated discussants. DCCI senior vice president made the concluding remarks.



# আজকালের খবর

বুধবার, ১৪ সেপ্টেম্বর, ২০২২

## Business and Investment Opportunities for Bangladesh via Hong Kong

2022 – Dhaka, Bangladesh



## ‘প্রয়োজনে আইন সংশোধন করবো বাংলাদেশে বিনিয়োগের করুন’

● অর্থনৈতিক প্রতিবেদক

দেশে-বিদেশি বিনিয়োগ বাড়াতে ব্যবসা-বাণিজ্যের সঙ্গে সাংঘর্ষিক যেকোনো আইন সংশোধন করতে চান বাণিজ্যমন্ত্রী টিপু মুনশি। বিদেশি বিনিয়োগ বাড়াতে সরকার যথেষ্ট আন্তরিক জানিয়ে তিনি বলেন, বাংলাদেশে আসুন, বিনিয়োগ করুন। গত সোমবার রাতে রাজধানীর একটি হোটেলে ‘হংকং হয়ে বাংলাদেশের বাণিজ্য ও বিনিয়োগ সম্ভাবনা’ শীর্ষক সেমিনারে তিনি এ আহ্বান জানান। প্রধান অতিথির বক্তব্যে বাণিজ্যমন্ত্রী টিপু মুনশি বলেন, আমাদের জনসংখ্যা বেশি। এখানের বাজার অনেক বড়, বাণিজ্যের সম্ভাবনাও বেশি। ব্যবসায়ীদের বাংলাদেশে বিনিয়োগের আহ্বান জানিয়ে তিনি বলেন, বিনিয়োগের প্রয়োজনে আমরা যেকোনো আইন সংশোধন করতে রাজি আছি। মন্ত্রী বলেন, সম্প্রতি ভারত সফরে সে দেশের ব্যবসায়ীদের কাছ থেকে ইতিবাচক সাড়া পেয়েছি। ভারতের ব্যবসায়ীরা বাংলাদেশের বিভিন্ন খাতে বিনিয়োগ করবেন বলে জানিয়েছেন। অন্যদিকে বাংলাদেশের সিমেন্ট, কাচ জাতীয় পণ্যের বড় বাজার হতে পারে হংকং যোগ করেন মন্ত্রী। বাণিজ্য সম্প্রসারণে সাহায্যকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান এইচকেটিডিসি ও ঢাকা চেম্বার অব কমার্স অ্যান্ড ইন্ডাস্ট্রি (ডিসিসিআই) যৌথভাবে এ সেমিনারের আয়োজন করে। স্বাগত বক্তব্যে ডিসিসিআই সভাপতি রিজওয়ান রহমান বলেন, হংকং ও বাংলাদেশের মধ্যে মসৃণ দ্বিপাক্ষিক অর্থনৈতিক সম্পর্ক বজায় রয়েছে। হংকং বাংলাদেশের বিশ্বস্ত শীর্ষ ১০ বিদেশি বিনিয়োগকারীদের মধ্যে একটি। তৈরি পোশাক ও জ্বালানি খাতে তারা এখন পর্যন্ত এক বিলিয়ন ডলারের বেশি বিনিয়োগ করেছে। তিনি বলেন, বাংলাদেশ ও

হংকংয়ের অর্থনৈতিক বন্ধনকে বিবেচনায় নিয়ে বাংলাদেশি ও বিদেশি বিনিয়োগকারীরা পারস্পরিক বিনিয়োগ এবং বাণিজ্যের সুযোগ অন্বেষণ করতে পারে। এতে এইচকেটিডিসি সংযোগকারী সেতু হতে পারে। বাংলাদেশি বিনিয়োগকারীরা এইচকেটিডিসির মাধ্যমে হংকংয়ে বাণিজ্যের সম্ভাবনা ব্যবহার করতে পারে। তিনি বলেন, ঢাকা চেম্বার ও এইচকেটিডিসি একটি আকর্ষণীয় কর্মপরিকল্পনার মাধ্যমে বিনিয়োগকারীদের সঙ্গে কাজ করতে পারে। সেমিনারে বাংলাদেশ ও হংকংয়ে বিনিয়োগ সম্ভাবনা নিয়ে প্রেজেন্টেশন দেন এইচকেটিডিসির কনসালটেন্ট রাজেশ ভাগাত। তিনি বলেন, বিশ্বের ১০০ বৃহৎ ব্যাংকের মধ্যে ৭০ টিই হংকংয়ে। দেশটিতে ব্যবসায় কোনো প্রকার সেলস, হোটেল ট্যাক্স ও কাস্টমস ট্যারিফের প্রয়োজন হয় না। অন্যদিকে বাংলাদেশে ব্যবসার ক্ষেত্রে ব্যবসায়ীরা ১০ শতাংশ ট্যাক্স হলিডে, রপ্তানি প্রণোদনা, কর মওকুফ, হাইটেক পার্কের সুবিধা পেয়ে থাকেন। বিশেষ অতিথির বক্তব্যে অর্থনৈতিক সম্পর্ক বিভাগের সচিব (ইআরডি) শরিফা খান বলেন, হংকংয়ের জনসংখ্যা বাংলাদেশের গুলশানের চেয়েও কম। কিন্তু তাদের অর্থনীতি অনেক বড়। এই পার্থক্যকে ব্যবসায়িক সুযোগে পরিণত করতে পারেন ব্যবসায়ীরা। তিনি বলেন, বাংলাদেশ ম্যানুফেকচারিং হাব। আমাদের এখানে পণ্য উৎপাদন করে ব্যবসায়ীরা সারাবিশ্বে ছড়িয়ে দিতে পারেন, কেননা হংকং বিশ্বের বাণিজ্য হাব। হংকংয়ে যেহেতু জনসংখ্যা কম, তাই বাংলাদেশের কর্মশক্তির বড় সম্ভাবনা রয়েছে সেখানে।



# BD-Hong Kong trade opportunities must grow

Business Correspondent

Speakers at a seminar hosted by Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) and Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) said Hong Kong as the global business hub, has been the gateway between China and the outside world but much of its business opportunities remained here untapped.

Hong Kong as a financial hub in Asia has many untapped opportunities for Bangladesh and to make here more investment and they can explore such business opportunities here. The seminar titled "Exploring business and investment opportunities for Bangladesh via Hong Kong" took place on Monday at Lakeshore Hotel in the city.

Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi attended the seminar as the chief guest while Secretary of the Economic Relations Division (ERD) Sharifa Khan was present as special guest. DCCI President Rizwan Rahman chaired the seminar.

The seminar focused discussion on likely issues of investment and trade potentials for Bangladesh and major economies through Hong Kong channel for deeper global economic fraternity.

Tipu Munshi said Bangladesh is going to be graduated from Least Developed Country (LDC) status and for that we need foreign investment especially in the infrastructure, financial, service and manufacturing sector.

He said that Bangladesh has a good demographic dividend, skilled workforce and congenial investment environment. "Try Bangladesh for invest-

ment", later he added.

He said the government made reforms made and continues it to create improved business environment. If any reforms are needed to expedite trade and business, government will do it immediately, he added.

He also said Hong Kong is a trusted business partner of Bangladesh and hoped that in future more Hong Kong companies will come here in Bangladesh.

Sharifa Khan said the existing trade gap between Bangladesh and Hong Kong is also a great opportunity for future business. She said Hong Kong is good in financial sector.

She invited them to operate in Bangladesh as our market is a big one in this region. She also said that if more Hong Kong companies come in Bangladesh it will help us for technology transfer.

DCCI President Rizwan Rahman said Hong Kong, a market-oriented free economy, is predominantly an ideal and important centre for international finance and trade for the Asia-Pacific region and mainland China which enable businesses to tap massive opportunities.

Hong Kong, the global business hub, has been the gateway between businesses in China and the outside world and the Asia's trade-fair and convention hub attracting many international businesses through various timely exhibitions, events and other trade-related events has made it an attractive destination.

He said Hong Kong has become one of the trusted top 10 foreign investors in Bangladesh with \$1.8 billion investment mainly till date in textile and energy sector and trade reached over \$1 billion earlier.



WEDNESDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2022

## Bangladesh seeks investments in logistics from Hong Kong

Tribune Desk

Bangladesh has sought investments in its logistics sector from Hong Kong.

At a program titled “Exploring business and investment opportunities for Bangladesh via Hong Kong,” speakers urged investors from Hong Kong to invest in Bangladesh owing to its pro-investment environment.

They also said Bangladesh has set up 100 economic zones where various facilities are being provided for investors.

At the event in a city hotel organized by the Dhaka Chambers of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) and Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC), Economics Relations Division Secretary Sharifa Khan said there was a big gap in business and trade between Bangladesh and Hong Kong which was an opportunity.

Businesses should look for business opportunities and work together to fully utilize those, she also said.

Khan further said that Bangladesh was a manufacturing hub and as the two shared many business entities, they could work together.

“We urge Hong Kong authorities to train our educated people. You are good in logistics and technology so we want your support,” she added.

Speaking as the special guest, she said Hong Kong has an opportunity to invest in Bangladesh which is offering the largest export-oriented economic zones.

The logistic sector is untapped in Bangladesh, so Hong Kong may invest in it.

In a presentation, Rajesh Bhagat, consultant South Asia, HKTDC, said readymade garments, textiles, light engineering, leather and jute goods were promising sectors for foreign investors. Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority executive member Mohammad Ifran Sharif said: “We are going to establish 100 economic zones to attract foreign direct investment, while the Mirsarai Economic

Zone is the one of the largest economic cities in Asia.”

The government is offering different types of fiscal policy support for investors, he added.

Around 75% of the land has already been leased to investors from home and abroad, of which three have already seen production taking place. Four government-to-government economic zones are also under construction or under process, he added.

Hong Kong is the 20th largest export destination for Bangladesh, said the BEZA executive member.

Janandrenath Sarkar, additional secretary ministry of commerce, said under the government’s policy, FDI is appreciated.

Investors will get a five-year visa through investing at least \$1 million. If the investment is \$10 million, investors will have no visa requirements facility.

Chief Guest and Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi said that a lot of Indian businesses were willing to invest in Bangladesh and they demonstrated that last week’s visit by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Any investment in Bangladesh will also be an opportunity to export to all over the world, he said, adding that the Seven Sisters states in India were a good export destination from Bangladesh.

Arman Haque, senior vice president, DCCI delivered the concluding remarks at the event moderated by DCCI President Rizwan Rahman. ●



## Bangladesh-Hong Kong trade opportunities still untapped

*Speakers say at DCCI-HKTDC seminar*

*Staff Correspondent*

Referring that the trade opportunities between Bangladesh and Hong Kong remains still untapped, speakers at a seminar on Monday observed that Bangladeshi and foreign investors can explore mutual investment and trade opportunities in promising industries via Hong Kong in different parts of the world including China vice versa in the changing economic context.

Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry (DCCI) and Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) jointly organized a seminar on "Exploring business and investment opportunities for Bangladesh via Hong Kong" on Monday evening at a city hotel.

Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi, MP was present as the chief guest while Sharifa Khan, Secretary, Economic Relations Division, Ministry of Finance was present as special guest with DCCI President Rizwan Rahman in the chair.

Rizwan Rahman, President, Dhaka Chamber in his opening remarks said Hong Kong, a market-oriented free economy, is predominantly an ideal and important centre for international finance and trade for the Asia-Pacific region and mainland which enable businesses to tap massive opportunities.

Hong Kong, the global business hub, has been the gateway between businesses in China and the outside world and the Asia's trade-fair and convention hub attracting many inter-



national businesses through various timely exhibitions, events and other trade-related events.

Hong Kong has become one of the trusted top 10 foreign investors in Bangladesh with \$1.8 billion investment mainly till date in textile and energy sector and trade reached over \$1 billion earlier.

Taking the investment success instance and economic tie of Bangladesh and Hong Kong into account, Bangladeshi and foreign investors can explore mutual investment and trade opportunities in promising industries via Hong Kong in different parts of the world including China vice versa in the changing economic context.

Tipu Munshi, MP, Minister for Commerce, Bangladesh said Bangladesh is going to be graduated from LDC status and for that we need foreign investment specially in the infrastructure, financial, service and manufacturing sector.

He said that Bangladesh has a good demographic dividend, skilled workforce and congenial investment environment. "Try Bangladesh for investment", later he added.

Sharifa Khan, Secretary, Economic Relations Division, Ministry of Finance said that the existing trade gap between Bangladesh and Hong Kong is also a great opportunity for future business.

She said Hong Kong is good in financial sector. Later she invited them to operate in Bangladesh as our market is a big one in this region. If more Hong Kong companies come in Bangladesh it will help us for technology transfer.

Rajesh Bhagat, Consultant South Asia, Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) presented the keynote paper.

He highlighted that Hong Kong has a very simple tax and customs procedures. There are not sales tax and no custom tariff.



# Try Bangladesh for investment : Tipu Munshi

Staff Correspondent

Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi remarked this while he was the chief guest in a seminar on "Exploring business and investment opportunities for Bangladesh via Hong Kong" on Monday at Lakeshore Hotel Dhaka. Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry (DCCI) and Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) jointly organized the seminar.

Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi said Bangladesh is going to be graduated from LDC status and for that we need foreign investment specially in the infrastructure, financial, service and manufacturing sector. He said that Bangladesh has a good demographic dividend, skilled workforce and congenial investment environment. "Try Bangladesh for investment", later he added. Not only the reforms government has made but it is a continuous process. If any reforms are needed to expedite trade and business, government will do it immediately. He also said that Hong Kong is a trusted partner for

Bangladesh. He hoped that in future more Hong Kong companies will come here in Bangladesh. DCCI President Rizwan Rahman said Hong Kong, a market oriented free economy, is predominantly an ideal and important centre for international finance and trade for the Asia-Pacific region and mainland which enable businesses to tap massive opportunities. Hong Kong, the global business hub, has been the gateway between businesses in China and the outside world and the Asia's trade-fair and convention hub attracting many international businesses through various timely exhibitions, events and



other trade-related events. Hong Kong has become one of the trusted top 10 foreign investors in Bangladesh with \$1.8 billion investment mainly till date in textile and energy sector and trade reached over \$1 billion earlier.

Taking the investment success instance and economic tie of Bangladesh and Hong Kong into account, Bangladeshi and foreign investors can explore mutual investment and trade opportunities

in promising industries via Hong Kong in different parts of the world including China vice versa in the changing economic context.

As a special Guest, Ministry of Finance Secretary Sharifa Khan said that the existing trade gap between Bangladesh and Hong Kong is also a great opportunity for future business. She said Hong Kong is good in financial sector. Later she invited them to operate in Bangladesh as our market is a big one in this region. She also said that if more Hong Kong companies come in Bangladesh it will help us for technology transfer. We are developing port and logistic sector.



Business and Investment  
for Bangladesh via Hong Kong

Dhaka, Bangladesh

সোমবার রাজধানীতে ঢাকা চেম্বার অব কমার্স অ্যান্ড ইন্ডাস্ট্রি এবং হংকং ট্রেড ডেভেলপমেন্ট কাউন্সিল  
আয়োজিত সেমিনারে প্রধান অতিথি ছিলেন বাণিজ্যমন্ত্রী টিপু মুনশি

ফটো রিলিজ

# বিদেশি বিনিয়োগ বাড়াতে আইনের সংস্কার হচ্ছে

■ সমকাল প্রতিবেদক

বাণিজ্যমন্ত্রী টিপু মুনশি বলেছেন, স্বল্পোন্নত দেশ (এলডিসি) থেকে উত্তরণের পর অর্থনৈতিক গতিশীলতা ধরে রাখতে সরাসরি বিদেশি বিনিয়োগ (এফডিআই) আকর্ষণে নানা পদক্ষেপ নেওয়া হচ্ছে। এজন্য বিভিন্ন আইনের সংস্কার ও নতুন নীতিমালা প্রণয়নের উদ্যোগ নিয়েছে সরকার।

গত সোমবার ঢাকা চেম্বার অব কমার্স অ্যান্ড ইন্ডাস্ট্রি (ডিসিসিআই) এবং হংকং ট্রেড ডেভেলপমেন্ট কাউন্সিল (এইচকেটিডিসি) যৌথভাবে আয়োজিত এক সেমিনারে প্রধান অতিথির বক্তব্যে টিপু মুনশি এসব কথা বলেন।

‘হংকং-এর মাধ্যমে বাংলাদেশের ব্যবসা-বাণিজ্য ও বিনিয়োগ সম্প্রসারণ’ শীর্ষক সেমিনারটি রাজধানীর লেকশোর হোটেলে অনুষ্ঠিত হয়। এতে বিশেষ অতিথি ছিলেন

## ঢাকা চেম্বারের সেমিনারে বাণিজ্যমন্ত্রী

অবকাঠামো খাতের উন্নয়ন ও আধুনিকায়নে বেশ কিছু বড় প্রকল্পের কাজ বাস্তবায়ন করছে। পাশাপাশি প্রয়োজনের নিরিখে আরও নতুন প্রকল্প হাতে নিচ্ছে। এ ধরনের প্রকল্পে হংকংয়ের আর্থিক প্রতিষ্ঠান বিনিয়োগ করতে পারে।

ঢাকা চেম্বারের সভাপতি রিজওয়ান রাহমান বলেন, বিদেশি বিনিয়োগ আকর্ষণের লক্ষ্যে বাংলাদেশ সরকার অর্থনৈতিক অঞ্চল স্থাপনসহ গুরুত্বপূর্ণ সুবিধা দিচ্ছে। এই সুবিধার সুযোগ নিতে পারেন হংকংয়ের উদ্যোক্তারা।



WEDNESDAY  
14 SEPTEMBER 2022

# Why not try Bangladesh as investment destination?

## Commerce minister urges Hong Kong investors

FE REPORT

Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi has urged investors from Hong Kong to try Bangladesh for investment, in order to get benefits from the country's demographic dividend, skilled workforce and congenial investment environment.

"Bangladesh has a good demographic dividend, skilled workforce and congenial investment environment, please try Bangladesh for investment," he said, while speaking at a seminar on Monday night.

Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) and Hong Kong Trade Development Council jointly organised the seminar on 'Exploring business and investment opportunities for Bangladesh via Hong Kong' at a city hotel.

Speaking as the chief guest, Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi said Bangladesh is going to be graduated from LDC status and for that "we need foreign investment, especially in the infrastructure, financial, service and manufacturing sectors."

"If any reforms are needed to expedite trade and business, the government will do it immediately," he assured.

Mentioning that Hong Kong is a trusted partner for Bangladesh, the minister expressed hope that more Hong Kong companies will come to Bangladesh in future.

The seminar was arranged with a view to discussing issues on investment and trade potential for Bangladesh and major economies through the Hong Kong channel for a deeper global economic fraternity.



**Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) President Rizwan Rahman speaks at the seminar styled 'Exploring business and investment opportunities for Bangladesh via Hong Kong' jointly organised by DCCI and Hong Kong Trade Development Council at a city hotel on Monday. Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi (centre) attended the event as the chief guest**

DCCI President Rizwan Rahman, in his opening remarks, said Hong Kong, a market-oriented free economy, is predominantly an ideal and important centre for international finance and trade for the Asia-Pacific region, enabling businesses to tap massive opportunities.

Hong Kong has been the gateway between businesses in China and the outside world, he further said.

As a trade hub of Asia, Mr Rahman said, Hong Kong attracts many international businesses through various exhibitions and other trade-related events.

Hong Kong has become one of the top 10 trusted foreign investors in Bangladesh with \$1.8 billion investment mainly in textile and energy sectors, said the DCCI president, adding that trade between the two entities had already reached over \$1 billion.

Taking the investment success instance and economic tie of Bangladesh and Hong Kong into account, Mr Rahman said

Bangladeshi and foreign investors can explore mutual investment and trade opportunities in promising industries via Hong Kong in different parts of the world, including China, and vice versa.

Sharifa Khan, secretary of the Economic Relations Division at the Ministry of Finance, said that the existing trade gap between Bangladesh and Hong Kong is also a great opportunity for future business.

Hong Kong is good in the financial sector, she commented, inviting the Hong Kong investors to operate in Bangladesh as its market is a big one in this region.

If more Hong Kong companies come to Bangladesh, it will help Bangladesh in areas of technology transfer, Ms Khan noted.

"We are developing the port and logistics sector; Hong Kong companies may invest here under PPP (public-private partnership) arrangement too," she added.

Rajesh Bhagat, South

Asia consultant for Hong Kong Trade Development Council, presented a keynote paper at the seminar.

He highlighted that Hong Kong has very simple tax and customs procedures - there are no sales tax and no customs tariff.

About 66 per cent of the mainland's outward FDI goes to or via Hong Kong, he said.

In 2020, total trade between Bangladesh and Hong Kong was \$1.41 billion where Bangladesh's import was \$1.28 billion and export \$126.7 million.

Bangladesh is offering good incentive packages to foreign investors and various reforms by the government will be helpful in attracting foreign investors, he observed.

Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Industries Janendra Nath Sarker and Additional Secretary of BEZA Mohammad Erfan Sharif also spoke as discussants.

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