Acronyms and abbreviations

1 US$ = 77.00 Bangladesh Taka (BDT)
1 BDT = 0.0129 US$

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES
1 acre = 0.404 hectare
1 ha = 10,000 m²

ACRONYMS, ABBREVIATIONS AND INITIALS

BICF  Bangladesh Investment Climate Fund
BEPZA  Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority
CAPEX  Capital Expenditures
EBITDA  Earnings Before Interest Taxes Depreciation Amortization
EPZ  Export Processing Zone
IFC  International Financing Cooperation
IRR  Internal Rate of Return
M²  Square meter
M³  Cubic meter
OPEX  Operating Expenditures
PPP  Public Private Partnership
ROE  Return on Equity
ROI  Return on Investment
SFB  Standard Factory Building
TFP  Total Factor Productivity

YEAR  Ended on 30 June
BEPZA is marching ahead through socio-economic development of the country

- To build economically prosperous Golden Bangla-
  Dream of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman

- To implement the goal of Bangladesh as middle-income country by 2021 & developed country by 2041
  Vision of the Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina
From Public Relations Desk

We are very much delighted to publish the Annual Report 2012-13 for the consecutive five years which is carrying out the financial performance as well as a few of our activities done in the fiscal year 2012-13. A proper publication like Annual Report is needed to bring the success of the organization into light. BEPZA is one of the successful organizations of Bangladesh in terms of investment attraction, employment generation and export earnings. It achieved a remarkable growth in investment, export & employment in last five years.

We have tried to give a new shape in this report by publishing the story segregating in different chapter. Now readers will find the matters easily. Like previous reports, we highlighted on our vision, mission and strategic objectives in this report also, which give us direction to go forward. It also carries out the investment scenario, trend of investment, the legal matters that are safeguard of foreign investment etc. Amicable cohesive relationship among Workers-Owner-Management is the core strength of the EPZ. Therefore, we cannot ignore the workers related issues, which definitely made place in this report. BEPZA always give emphasis to eco-friendly industrial atmosphere as well as environmental and social compliance matters. In this manuscript, we briefly highlighted on these issues.

BEPZA is an active partner of Digital Bangladesh. It is also working to implement the Vision 2021. We have made a chapter named ‘BEPZA Role for Goal-2021’ that is decorated with our activities to make Bangladesh a middle-income country within 2021. In financial part, we have used some graphs, tables so that the readers can easily go through it. BEPZA directory & glance tour on eight EPZs will definitely facilitate the associated stakeholders. We ornamented our new chapter ‘Highlights’ with various VIPs, VVIPs and dignitaries comments, and pictures during visiting zones.

To accomplish this huge task we got tremendous support from Accounts & Finance, Investment Promotion and Engineering Divisions of the Executive Office and from the Zone Offices. We are thankful to them for their nice cooperation. Our main target is to illustrate and focuses the overall scenario of BEPZA in this publication. Public Relations section tried to fulfill this target compiling all the data to present a useful and informative report. Our endeavor will be successful if this Annual Report could present a complete picture of BEPZA to its readers for the concerned year.
The Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina
and
Chairman, BEPZA Board of Governors
Message

I am happy to know that Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA) is going to publish its Annual Report for 2012-2013.

I appreciate the role of BEPZA in attracting and facilitating FDI and local investments in the country’s Export Processing Zones. BEPZA is still a dream destination for foreign and local investments.

Bangladesh is an attractive base for investments. Bangladesh’s economy has been growing steadily despite the recent global economic crisis and become one of the diversified products exporters in the world. Bangladesh is offering the most liberal investment opportunities in South Asia.

To encourage investment, trade and commerce, my government considers allocating separate economic and industrial zones. Our existing EPZs are also lucrative for Investment and eight EPZs have so far gained about USD 3.2 billion investment. I am also delighted to know that 432 industries are operating in EPZs creating jobs for more than 401,759 workers. Goods worth USD 41571.20 million have so far been exported.

Wages of EPZs’ workers have been increased twice in the last five years and BEPZA strictly monitors the workers’ rights & welfares, work place safety, including environmental protection and compliances. Workers Welfare Association is functioning peacefully for ensuring labour rights as per the EPZs Act.

BEPZA has been playing a significant role in women empowerment by employment generation & training projects for vulnerable women. I am also pleased that BEPZA has taken a dormitory project for unprivileged female workers in different EPZs.

I would like to congratulate EPZs investors & workers, and employees of BEPZA who are instrumental in creating amiable environment in EPZs. This kind of cordial collaboration highlights BEPZA’s fame in global market and as well as encouragement for others.

This report, I hope, will be a ready reference for the investors at home and abroad and they will quickly find required information for a favorable investment.

I wish all out success of the publication.

Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu
May Bangladesh Live Forever.

Sheikh Hasina
Md. Abul Kalam Azad
Principal Secretary
Prime Minister’s Office
Message

I am delighted to know that Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA) is going to publish its Annual Report 2012-2013. BEPZA has started its journey with a vision to strengthen economically prosperous Bangladesh by promotion of investment, employment generation and diversification of export.

As a member of BEPZA Governor Board, I appreciate Bangladesh EPZ Authority that it is playing a pivotal role in socio-economic development of the country through facilitating trade and investment including backward & forward linkage industry and poverty alleviation by creation of job. With active support of the Government, BEPZA strives for adoption of a market responsive zone management policy. It includes digitalization of day-to-day activities, improvement of social and environmental compliances in EPZs of the country. I believe that investors from home and abroad would come forward to invest more here and enjoy the attractive incentives provided by the government.

I am glad that Bangladesh EPZ Authority has achieved remarkable success during last five years. Presently BEPZA gained US$ 3480.40 million investment, exported goods worth about US$ 44 billion and created employment opportunity for more than 4 lacs Bangladeshi workers. I am also pleased to know that every year an increasing number of women are joining the productive workforce of EPZs migrating from poverty prone areas that have been making significant contribution to the gradual empowerment of women. BEPZA is going to implement a plan to establish dormitories for women workforce, it will improve their expertise in industrial sector and definitely, they will add value to the national economy.

I would like to mention that Prime Minister’s Office and BEPZA signed a MoU on Performance Management to evaluate the qualitative and quantitative achievements to implement Vision-2021. As part of this initiative, the most important Key Performance Indicators (KPI) determined to achieve the objectives of the organization. BEPZA gradually implementing the KPI targets and strengthen training programs, seminars and digitalization activities to improve expertise of the organization.

I wish, the contributions so far made by BEPZA towards the economic development of the country would continue in the years ahead. I hope overall success of BEPZA to keep on its trends in accelerating the pace of industrial progress and creating more employment opportunities in the country.

I expect this report will assist the entrepreneurs to get right direction in choosing investment destination.

May 2015

Md. Abul Kalam Azad
Principal Secretary
Preamble

Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA) is working relentlessly with the mission to increase the volume of investment, diversification of export, employment generation and thereby strengthening the economic base of Bangladesh.

The success story of EPZ in Bangladesh has established BEPZA as a thriving organization in the country and as a brand in the global business arena.

BEPZA started its journey with one EPZ as “New Horizon” and gradually flourished eight EPZs with the fame as “Asia’s Low Cost Production Base”. BEPZA is well known as a success icon in the country in terms of investment friendly industrial enclave and Bangladesh EPZs are prominently known as Bonanza for the Investors.

Eight EPZs consists of only 2307.27 acres of land. From this very little area, BEPZA is contributing a huge impact in the economy of Bangladesh. More than 420,000 of workforces are working within the tiny piece of land and contributing over 19% to the total national export.
The authority is fully committed to accomplish the target of rapid industrialization of the country by attracting investment, boosting export, alleviation of poverty and women empowerment with the active support and direction of the Government of Bangladesh. Our achievement was remarkable in the last six years. We obtained 129.55% growth in investment, 155.95% in export and 112.30% in employment from 2009-14 with compared to 2003-08. So far, Bangladesh EPZs gained investment about US$ 3.6 billion. Export from these EPZs reached over US$ 46 billion. I am very glad that BEPZA is so far on the right track to achieve its target.

BEPZA is playing a pivotal role in socio-economic development of the country by creating job opportunities. Employment pattern of EPZ shows that it has been making significant contribution to the gradual empowerment of women in the country. Out of the total workforce, 64% are female. Moreover, under the directives of Honourable Prime Minister, BEPZA and Bangladesh Bank have jointly taken up a project to build dormitories for the EPZs’ female workers to play a supportive role. In the last five years, wages and other benefits of the EPZs’ workers have been increased twice. Presently, the minimum wages is US$ 70. Government has enacted “The EPZ Workers Welfare Association and Industrial Relations Act” keeping provision to form Workers Welfare Association (WWA) by the direct votes of the workers. The WWA is acting as CBA for the EPZ workers.

BEPZA is working continuously for the industrial development of the country. To do this job we never ignore the compliance and environmental issues in the EPZ areas. IR department and 60 Social Counselors strictly monitor the workplace safety & compliance related issues regularly. The authority has been allowed to set up hi-tech eco-friendly service oriented industries in EPZs. 30 Environment Counselors have been appointed to monitor the environmental issues of EPZs. Moreover, BEPZA has strong fire fighting team in every EPZ in order to ensure fire safety. The core strength of EPZs is the amicable relations within the Workers-Management-Owners and it always tries to keep this harmony bridge strong.

Technological development by the enterprises of EPZs has made the work easy to build a digital Bangladesh, one of the commitments of the present government to the nation. BEPZA introduced video conference system within the EPZs. Besides, it also has a dynamic website. Issuance of import-export permit online has already been introduced in Chittagong, Dhaka and Karnaphuli EPZs. Other EPZs will come under this automated system by this year.

BEPZA always reforms its expansion strategy and adjusts with the changing global scenario under the directives of Hon’ble Prime Minister. We are obliged to the Hon’ble Prime Minister for her active directions as the Chairperson of BEPZA Board of Governors. Our golden Bangladesh is marching ahead under the dynamic leadership of the Hon’ble Prime Minister with the goal of becoming a middle-income country by 2021. BEPZA is happy to become a proud partner in implementing the Vision- 2021.

We are thankful to the respected members of BEPZA Board of Governors for giving the necessary policy support. We are also grateful to our Principal Secretary for his valuable advice and directives. Finally, I would like to express my special thanks to our Executive Board, Efficient Officers and Employees for their sincerity & hard work, which made possible BEPZA as one of the successful organizations in the country. I would also like to express my profound gratitude to our valued investors and potential workforce who have provided us the real support that has enabled BEPZA to march forward and gain success.

We are happy to share our facts and achievement with the people as well as our stakeholders through this annual report as a consecutive publication.

I am confident that if these efforts and cohesive teamwork continues BEPZA will be able to keep this success and remain glorious as Bonanza for Investors.

July 2015

Mohd Habibur Rahman Khan
Major General
Executive Chairman
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Chaired by
The Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina
Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh

EXECUTIVE BOARD
Headed by
The Executive Chairman
Members: Investment Promotion, Engineering, Finance

BEPZA
Lead by the Executive Chairman
Secretary (Administration)
General Manager: Investment Promotion
Enterprise Services, Public Relations, Security
MIS, Engineering & Maintenance, Accounts & Audit

EPZ
Operated by the General Manager
Chittagong, Dhaka, Comilla, Karnaphuli
Adamjee, Mongla, Ishwardi, Uttara
Who We Are
BEPZA Strategy
BEPZA Events Chronology
WHO WE ARE

The journey of Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA) started three decades ago. By this time, BEPZA became a successful organization in Bangladesh. BEPZA is working persistently to implement its mission of increasing the volume of investment, diversification of export, employment generation and thereby strengthening the economic base of Bangladesh.

In view of the growing need of attracting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) as well as local Investment for industrialization, government took the initiative to set up Export Processing Zones (EPZ) in the different parts of the country. Accordingly, the BANGLADESH EXPORT PROCESSING ZONES AUTHORITY ACT-1980 passed in the Parliament.

BEPZA has been empowered for the creation, development, operation and management of EPZs. From the inception, BEPZA has been engaged in attracting and facilitating foreign and local investments in the EPZs.

The primary function of an EPZ is to provide a special enclave where the investors would find a congenial investment climate, which would be free from cumbersome procedures.
BEPZA STRATEGY

Our Vision
Stronger & economically prosperous Bangladesh

Our Mission
Strengthen the economic base of Bangladesh through-
- Industrialization
- Promotion of investment
- Boost up export
- Generation of employment

In the Export Processing Zones

Our Strategic Objectives
- Promotion of Local & Foreign Investment in EPZs
- Better services to the investors
- Boost up export of EPZs
- Enhancement of Employment opportunities including workers welfare in EPZs
- Transfer of Technology & Skill Development
BEPZA was empowered under the BEPZA Act 1980 and The Foreign Private Investment Act 1980.
WHY INVEST IN THE EPZ

Trend of Investment
Ultimate FDI Destination
Investment Protection
Attraction Point
Incentive Basket
The EPZ of Bangladesh well known as ‘Bonanza for the Investors’ due to low cost production base, availability of cheapest energetic workforce and geo-regional location. BEPZA always tries to maintain peaceful, production oriented investment friendly industrial atmosphere in the EPZs. For this reason, various adverse situations in industrial sector of the country could not affect on EPZ. Thus, BEPZA is playing a significant role in the economic as well as socio-economic development of the country. EPZ is renowned for competitive wage, low cost production and most attractive investment friendly industrial base in the Asian Region. Now BEPZA is a brand in the global market. Investment is always welcome in the EPZs and BEPZA ensures congenial atmosphere for the investors. Investors from 38 countries have invested in the EPZs of Bangladesh.

Entrepreneurs are keen to invest in the lucrative location of capital city Dhaka and port city Chittagong area. Due to lack of plots in Dhaka and Chittagong EPZs BEPZA is unable to accommodate big entrepreneurs despite of growing demands in those EPZs. There are no vacant plots in Dhaka, Chittagong, Comilla, Adamjee, Karnaphuli EPZs and only a few plots are available in Uttara, Ishwardi and Mongla EPZs which are not enough for big scale investment. Since there is scarcity of plots in the EPZs, BEPZA is expanding the existing Standard Factory Buildings vertically to meet up with the growing demand of investment. 23,600 square meters factory building has already been expanded and 10,148 sqm expansion works worth Tk. 18,50 million is going on.

However, changing of the global economic scenario is prompting investors from industrially develops countries including China to reassess their investment strategies and plan for the relocation of their industries in a suitable place. Those changes are creating opportunities for Bangladesh to attract higher levels of FDI. China, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Philippines, Vietnam, Indonesia & Malaysia are experiencing an increase in wage and they are raising the production cost that is making them more expensive, resulting in the international investors’ keen to migrate their industries in the EPZs of Bangladesh.
Several surveys and reports show that climate of doing business in Bangladesh is very good for foreign investors

- According to 'World Investment Reports 2014', conducted by the UNCTAD, Bangladesh is placed as a distant second favored investment destination in South Asia just after India. Inflow of foreign direct investment was US$ 1.6 billion in 2013, which is 24% higher than the previous year.

- The World Bank has ranked Bangladesh 20th out of 187 countries for Investor Protection, making it the best in the South Asian region. (Doing Business, Published by IFC).

- According to the rating based on 39 indicators grouped in 10 categories, Bangladesh is a better business location than India, Nepal, Bhutan, and Afghanistan.

- In case of arranging credit, Bangladesh ranked in 72nd position.

- In case of starting business, Bangladesh ranked in 79th position.

- In case of payment of taxes, Bangladesh ranked in 93rd position.

- Bangladesh ranked 107th position in terms of Ease of Doing Business, among 183 countries. The ranking recognizes Bangladesh as one of the easier locations for doing business in South Asia.
INVESTMENT PROTECTION

The Foreign Private Investment (Promotional and Protection) secures all foreign investment against expropriation, nationalization and ensures fair and equitable treatment. The Foreign Private Investment (Promotional and Protection) Act, 1980 secures all foreign investment.

**BEPZA is signatory and member of -**

**MIGA**
Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) provides security under international law.

**ICSID**
International Center for the Settlement of Investment Dispute (ICSID) provides arbitration facility.

**WIPO**
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) safeguards copyright interests.

**OPIC**
Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC)'s Insurance and Finance programs operable.
GSP
As a Least Developed Country (LDC), Bangladesh enjoys tariff and quota free access to the 27 EU countries under Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) for all its products (apart from arms and armaments) if that the products satisfy the EU rules of origin. These stipulate that manufactured products have to be ‘sufficiently worked or processed’ in the exporting country in order to qualify as having originated there. Bangladesh also enjoys tariff-free access for the exports of manufactured products to the Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and other developed countries under their respective Generalized Systems of Preferences.

Duty Free Access
Some 49 countries have given duty-free access to Bangladeshi products in their markets. 28 EU countries, Australia, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, Japan, Turkey, Canada; Russia and Belarus have allowed 71 products under the GSP to Bangladesh.

South Korea has given duty-free access to 4,820 products under the Preferential Tariff for LDC while China has given to 4,788 products under Duty-Free Treatment Grants. Thailand has allowed duty-free access to 299 products under BIMSTEC and Malaysia to 297 products.

Trade Agreement facilities
Bangladesh enjoys facilities from the membership of the South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA), which considered India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and other South Asian countries to reduce its tariffs on a wide range of products. According to SAFTA, investors in Bangladesh enjoy duty-free access to India and other member countries. Furthermore, Bangladesh belongs to the Asia Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA), SAPTA and therefore enjoys reduced tariffs on exports of certain goods to China.

Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT)
The Foreign Private Investment (Promotion and Protection) Act 1980 includes guarantee of fair and equitable treatment to foreign private investment. Such national treatment is also provided in Bilateral Investment Treaties (BITs) for the promotion and protection of foreign investment which was concluded with 31 countries as on April, 2012. Apart from that, negotiations on concluding BITs have been going on with other 9 countries. Meanwhile BITs concluded with Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, France, Germany, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Japan, DPR Korea, South Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Switzerland, The Netherlands, The Philippines, Turkey, Thailand, UK, USA, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Singapore, Denmark, India and UAE. Furthermore BITs under Negotiation with Oman, Egypt, Russia, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Sudan, Qatar, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia.
Offshore Banking Unit (OBU)

Offshore Banking Unit (OBU) refers to an international foreign currency-based banking facility involving non-residents. A non-resident is a person, bank or firm who resides outside Bangladesh. Non-residents also include Bangladesh nationals who reside abroad. Offshore banking units can carry on with their activities of deposit taking and lending to international enterprises or investors without conflict with the domestic fiscal and monetary policy. Therefore, offshore banking is international banking kept separate from domestic banking with freedom of functioning.

OBUs play an important role in satisfying the banking needs of the industries operating in the Export Processing Zones (EPZs) of the country extending all sorts of credit facilities; with the growing demands for banking facilities due to establishments of more industries in the EPZs. Avenues have created for the local banks to earn substantial amount of foreign exchange by operating OBUs. The OBUs are entitled to obtain deposit as well as borrowing from abroad and are free to extend credit facilities to the industries in the EPZs. OBUs help the local banks to serve better the needs of their customer who set up A-Type industries in the EPZs.

OBUs are free to accept deposits from outside Bangladesh and borrow from abroad. They are also free to make advances/investments abroad and make permissible transactions with industries in the EPZs. OBUs may be located both in the EPZs and in any other convenient locations outside. Even existing branches of banks may be allowed to operate such units through a completely separate counter. At present, BEPZA has permitted 31 Banks for setting up of OBUs.
Fiscal
- 7 years Tax holiday for Uttara, Ishwardi and Mongla EPZ; first 03 years 100% exemption, next 03 years 50% exemption and last 01 (7th) year 25% exemption
- 5 years Tax holiday period for Chittagong, Dhaka, Comilla, Adamjee and Karnaphuli EPZ; first 02 years 100% exemption, next 02 years (3rd and 4th Year) 50% exemption and rest 01 years (5th Year) 25% exemption
- Exemption from income tax on salaries of foreign technician for 3 years (Projects approved before March 22, 2009)
- Duty free import of raw materials, machinery, equipment and construction materials
- Duty free export of finished goods
- Relief from double taxation
- Exemption from dividend tax for tax holiday period
- Duty free import of two / three vehicles for A & B type industries subject to certain conditions (Projects approved before March 22, 2009)
- Full repatriation of profit, capital and establishment

Non-Fiscal
- No ceiling on foreign investment, 100% foreign ownership permissible
- Enjoys GSP benefits in EU countries, Japan, Australia, Canada, Norway etc.
- Foreign currency loan from abroad under direct automatic route (OBU facilities)
- Non-resident Foreign Currency Deposit (NFCD) allowed for 'A' type industries
- Operation of FC account by 'B' and 'C' type industries allowed
- 100% backward linkage raw materials, accessories are allowed to sell for export-oriented industries inside and outside EPZs
- Import and export on CM/CMP/CMT basis allowed
- 10% sale of finished products except garments, defective finished goods and surplus raw materials to Domestic Tariff Area is allowed
- Import from Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) and 10% export to DTA allowed
- Intra / inter zone sub-contracting and transfer of goods allowed
- Sub-contracting with Export Oriented Industries inside and outside EPZ allowed
- No UD (Utilization Declaration), IRC (Import Registration Certificate), ERC (Export Registration Certificate) and Renewal of Bond license required

One Stop Facilities
- BEPZA offers One Window Same Day service
- Simplified Project Approval procedure
- Work Permits issued by BEPZA
- Import and Export Permits issued by BEPZA within the same day through automation system
- Customs clearance at the factory site
- Investors are required to deal only with BEPZA for investment and all other operational needs

Support Services
- Business- Bank, Courier, Post Office, C&F Agent, Shipping Agent, MTO etc.
- Administrative- Customs Office, Police Station, In-house Security, Fire Station, Public Transport, Medical Centre, Warehouse / Godown, Dormitory, Day Care Centre etc.
- Others- Restaurant, Health Club, Investors Club, Recreation Centre, School and College, Sports Complex, Exclusive Telephone Exchange, Electricity Sub Station, Business Centre, Anglers Club etc.
SCENARIOS

Category
Performance
Contribution
Country wise Enterprises
Product Diversification
Product wise Enterprises
Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority follows an open door policy to attract investment from home and abroad. Investors are facilitated in three categories, e.g.

Type - 'A' - 100% foreign ownership investment;
Type - 'B' - Joint venture between Bangladeshi and foreign investors with no limit to the extent of equity share;
Type - 'C' - 100% Bangladeshi ownership.

BEPZA has sanctioned 561 industrial units in different EPZs of the country as of June 2013. Among these, 419 industries are already in operation and others are in different stages of implementation. Out of those 419 enterprises, 237 plants have been set up through Foreign Direct Investment, 61 industries are under Joint Venture and 121 units fully owned by Bangladeshi.
INVESTMENT

US$ 2784.75 million cumulative investment made in the EPZs. Of these total amount US$ 1094.06 million has been invested in Chittagong EPZ, US$ 931.55 million in Dhaka EPZ, US$ 263.05 million in Karnaphuli EPZ, US$ 194.22 million in Adamjee EPZ, US$ 177.70 million in Comilla EPZ, US$ 72.85 million in Ishwardi EPZ, US$ 43.32 million in Uttara EPZ and US$ 8.74 million in Mongla EPZ.
**EXPORT**


**EMPLOYMENT**

3,74,008 labour forces are working in the EPZs up to June, 2013. Among them 1,85,006 numbers of workers are working in Chittagong EPZ, 88,033 Dhaka EPZ, 39,070 Karnaphuli EPZ, 30,874 Adamjee EPZ, 14,713 Comilla EPZ, 8,679 Uttara EPZ, 6,071 Ishwardi EPZ and 1,562 in Mongla EPZ. The Asian investors created most of the employment opportunities. The percentage of female workers in EPZs is around 64% among the total work force.
Financial Part

Bangladesh with 56,977.095 square miles territorial where 8 EPZs under BEPZA consisting 3.60 square miles of land has 419 operating industries with 3,74,008 workforce have contributed 17.97% to the total national export on FY 2012-13. BEPZA has been playing a significant role for socio-economic progress of the country. Since 1996 to 2013, the total export from Bangladesh amounted to around US$ 198.88 billion, of which export from the EPZs were US$ 33.44 billion.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Export of BD (US$ M)</th>
<th>Total Export of EPZs (US$ M)</th>
<th>BEPZA's Contribution (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1996-1997</td>
<td>4,418</td>
<td>463</td>
<td>10.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997-1998</td>
<td>5,161</td>
<td>636</td>
<td>12.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998-1999</td>
<td>5,313</td>
<td>712</td>
<td>13.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999-2000</td>
<td>5,752</td>
<td>891</td>
<td>15.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000-2001</td>
<td>6,467</td>
<td>1068</td>
<td>16.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001-2002</td>
<td>5,986</td>
<td>1077</td>
<td>18.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002-2003</td>
<td>6,548</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>18.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003-2004</td>
<td>7,603</td>
<td>1354</td>
<td>17.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004-2005</td>
<td>8,655</td>
<td>1549</td>
<td>17.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005-2006</td>
<td>10,526</td>
<td>1836</td>
<td>17.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006-2007</td>
<td>12,178</td>
<td>2064</td>
<td>17.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007-2008</td>
<td>14,111</td>
<td>2429</td>
<td>17.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008-2009</td>
<td>15,560</td>
<td>2582</td>
<td>16.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009-2010</td>
<td>16,250</td>
<td>2822</td>
<td>17.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-2011</td>
<td>22,924</td>
<td>3698</td>
<td>16.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-2012</td>
<td>24,410</td>
<td>4210</td>
<td>17.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-2013</td>
<td>27,018</td>
<td>4856</td>
<td>17.97</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Socio Economic Part

Every year an increasing number of young female workers are joining the productive workforce of EPZs along with the males. BEPZA is playing a fundamental role for women empowerment. An immense number of female workforces are working in EPZs, the percentage of female workers stands around 64%. Thus, BEPZA is playing a vital role in poverty alleviation through women empowerment. Furthermore, BEPZA has taken a project to facilitate employment opportunities for vulnerable women particularly from the Northern part of Bangladesh.

They will also receive life skill training such as adjustment to city life, savings and remittances, safety and security, rights and responsibilities at the workplace, finding appropriate housing, contract negotiation, health & hygiene and among others.

The EPZs of Bangladesh have been contributing a lot in economic as well as socio-economic development of the country. About 20-25 lacs people are being benefited directly because of the timely payment of wages of the workers. Furthermore, Bangladesh is earning a huge quantity of foreign currency as rental of land & buildings and as service charge on the bill of water, electricity, gas etc. Meanwhile Satellite town has developed surrounding the EPZ area.

In addition, many forward & backward linkage industries including transport, catering supply, telecommunication, bank, insurance, shipping agent, C&F agent, courier, bazaar, educational institutions, hospitals and other business and service related office has also been developed which is directly contributing the economy of Bangladesh. Many people employed in these sectors where BEPZA is indirectly contributing for employment generation.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SL</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Enterprise (in op)</th>
<th>Investment (US$ m)</th>
<th>Employment (Nos.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>688.488</td>
<td>81,863</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>569.775</td>
<td>87,868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>107.638</td>
<td>16,535</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Taiwan</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>224.745</td>
<td>16,155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>246.968</td>
<td>42,141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>255.354</td>
<td>11,003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>52.651</td>
<td>12,693</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>U.S.A</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>76.507</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>105.28</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>63.133</td>
<td>16,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>16.368</td>
<td>2,478</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>22.24</td>
<td>5,271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>The Netherlands</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>63.962</td>
<td>5,843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>41.559</td>
<td>3,151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>36.806</td>
<td>3,189</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Br. Virgin Island</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>41.757</td>
<td>8,854</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9.798</td>
<td>2,210</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3.683</td>
<td>1,354</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8.439</td>
<td>1,945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5.214</td>
<td>382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.556</td>
<td>283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3.047</td>
<td>359</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13.42</td>
<td>4,046</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.546</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4.557</td>
<td>771</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Panama</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.891</td>
<td>2,328</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Marshall Island</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20.351</td>
<td>467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.711</td>
<td>225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>UAE</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.591</td>
<td>338</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Rumania</td>
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<td>4.323</td>
<td>2,531</td>
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<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>DPR Korea</td>
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<td>67</td>
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<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Thailand</td>
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<td>0.484</td>
<td>814</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Australia</td>
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<td>0.026</td>
<td>66</td>
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<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.117</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Malta</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.444</td>
<td>489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Kuwait*</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.205</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Turkey*</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.358</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Oman*</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Under implementation / Signed LA
PRODUCT DIVERSIFICATION

Since inception, BEPZA has been trying to add new diversified items to its product lists. Basically, Bangladesh is known in the world market as a garment manufacturer country. BEPZA is trying to come out from this garment manufacturer label by sanctioning diversified items. EPZ enterprises are playing a significant role for the export diversification of the country. The produced items of the EPZ enterprises are:- Garments, Garments Accessories, Textile, Tent, Tent Accessories, Electrical equipment and components, LED lamp and Mobile Parts, Selection Button, Furniture, Optical goods, Bi-cycle, Golf Shaft, Sleeping Bag, Camping Furniture, Agro Products, Wig and Fashion Hair, Camera & Camera Lens, Carpet, Automobile Parts, Engineering products, Leather products and Footwear, Battery, Gold and Diamond Jewelry, Bag, Luggage, Thermal Bag, Metal products, Cosmetics and Hollywood Mask, Chemical, Toys, Eye-glass and Bamboo made Coffin, Frame, Chopsticks etc.

Every year various types of products are exported to the global market from EPZs. Some world famous brand products such as: Nike, Reebok, Lafuma, Sony Ericsson, Nissan, Mitsubishi, Hino, Toyota, Konica, Fuji, Gap, Brooks, J.C. Penny, Wal-Mart, Kmart, Ospig (Germany), Mother Care (UK), Adidas, Falcon (USA), etc. are being manufactured in the EPZs.
## Products Wise Enterprises

**As On Jun-2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SI</th>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Enterprise (Nos.)</th>
<th>Investment (US$ m)</th>
<th>Employment (Nos.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Garments</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>921.017</td>
<td>222,556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Garment Accessories</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>332.720</td>
<td>18,324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Knitting &amp; other Textile product</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>223.750</td>
<td>34,635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Textile</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>500.275</td>
<td>23,089</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Footwear &amp; Leather goods</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>163.196</td>
<td>23,478</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Terry towel</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>70.286</td>
<td>8,279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Electronics &amp; Electrical goods</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>110.114</td>
<td>3,932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Plastic goods</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>33.584</td>
<td>1,331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Metal Products</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>36.595</td>
<td>2,144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Tent</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>57.199</td>
<td>9,039</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Agro Products</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3.159</td>
<td>385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Service Oriented Industries</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>36.161</td>
<td>1,018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Caps</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>51.568</td>
<td>7,944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Chemical &amp; Fertilizer</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3.957</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Furniture</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>29.681</td>
<td>3,237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Ropes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6.476</td>
<td>574</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Power Industry</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>90.716</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Paper Products</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.394</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Fishing Reel &amp; Golf Equipment</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>33.060</td>
<td>794</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Sports goods</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.333</td>
<td>381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Toys</td>
<td>Under Implementation</td>
<td>8.007</td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>70.498</td>
<td>12,351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>419</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,784.75</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,74,008</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority has a success story with a new dimension to increase the volume of investment, diversification of export and thereby, employment generation which strengthening the economic base of Bangladesh. 8 EPZs under BEPZA has achieved a remarkable growth in Investment, Export and Employment during the last 05 financial years.
Investment

Since 2008-09 to 2012-13 Fiscal Years US$ 1.35 Billion investment has been made in BEPZA. Figure shows there is a growth inflow in terms of physical investment made in the EPZs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Year</th>
<th>Investment in Million US$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008 - 2009</td>
<td>148.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009 - 2010</td>
<td>221.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010 - 2011</td>
<td>313.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011 - 2012</td>
<td>339.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 - 2013</td>
<td>328.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1351.04</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Export

During 2008-09 to 2012-13 Fiscal Years the enterprises of EPZ exported goods worth US$ 18.17 Billion, which was around 17.97% of the last 05 years national export. With the increase of export, the contribution of EPZs to the total national export quantum is also mounting every year.

5 Years Growth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Year</th>
<th>Export in Million US$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008 - 2009</td>
<td>2581.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009 - 2010</td>
<td>2822.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010 - 2011</td>
<td>3697.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011 - 2012</td>
<td>4210.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 - 2013</td>
<td>4856.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>18169.34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Employment

Employment pattern of EPZs shows that BEPZA have been making a vital role for poverty emancipation in view of socio economic development of the energetic youth combination force through employment generation. 1,55,709 Bangladeshi nationals have directly employed in the previous 05 Financial Years.

5 Years Inflow

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Year</th>
<th>Employment (Number)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008 - 2009</td>
<td>16,394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009 - 2010</td>
<td>28,064</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010 - 2011</td>
<td>43,666</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011 - 2012</td>
<td>33,598</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 - 2013</td>
<td>33,987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,55,709</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Responsibilities

ENVIRONMENTAL
CETP
WTP
Power Plant

SOCIAL
Medical
Day Care
Workshop & Training
Education
Sports & Culture
BEPZA is responsible for economic development of the country through industrialization and employment generation. Besides this BEPZA is also taking part for environment protection in the EPZs as well as ensuring social responsibilities for the workers of EPZs.

**ENVIRONMENTAL**

In order to ensure maximum protection of the environment in the zone, BEPZA has allowed setting up hi-tech eco-friendly service oriented industries. The investors have found these projects are truly encouraging. Moreover, 30 Environment Counselors have been appointed to monitor the environmental issues of 8 EPZs.

**Central Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP)**

BEPZA is aware about the environmental issues related to manufacturing industries. The authorities have already taken steps to introduce 3 Central Effluent Treatment Plants (CETP) in 3 EPZs to ensure maximum protection for the environment. These Central Effluent Treatment Plants treat the industrial effluents of the EPZ enterprises as service oriented industries. The CETP projects in Chittagong and Dhaka EPZs are in operation and in Comilla EPZ is in final stage.

Central Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) in Chittagong EPZ can treat 45,000 cubic meters of liquid effluent per day, where 230 Bangladeshi nationals are working. CETP in Dhaka EPZ, which targets to treat 15,000-43,000 cubic meters of liquid effluent per day. 35 Bangladeshi and 7 foreign nationals are working in this plant.

CETP of Comilla EPZ aim to treat 15,000 cubic meters effluent per day with 33 Bangladeshi employee.
**Water Treatment Plant (WTP)**

Three Water Treatment Plants are in Chittagong, Adamjee and Comilla EPZs. However, BEPZA with the help of a Govt. organization treats the saline water collected from the Karnaphuli River / underground and then supply fresh water to the enterprises in Karnaphuli EPZ. BEPZA welcomes WTP projects in the EPZs to set up as the service oriented industries.

![Water Treatment Plant Image]

**Power Plant (PP)**

BEPZA has executed the power supply agreements with private companies for producing and supplying of 300 Megawatts electricity to the enterprises in 04 EPZs. As per the agreements, these companies allowed for supply and sale their extra power to the national power grid after meeting the demand of the EPZ enterprises. Thus, the power plants in the EPZs are contributing to the national economy by meeting up the demand of electricity outside the EPZ areas. A Bangladeshi company has already started to provide electricity to the enterprises in Chittagong and Dhaka EPZs. BEPZA has also taken initiatives for setting up power plants in other EPZs.

![Power Plant Image]
SOCIAL

The EPZ enterprises are keeping up their Corporate Social Responsibilities (CSR) to the people of Bangladesh. As the regulatory body, BEPZA monitors on health and hygiene of the workers properly. The EPZ enterprises take care about their workers cultural manners and talent related issues. They also take initiative to improve the livelihood of the community people around the EPZs. 60 Social Counselors are working to sustain the harmonic relations among workers, owners and management.

Medical Centers

BEPZA is operating its own Medical Centers in all the EPZs for providing free medical services to the workers or employees of the enterprises. Until June 2013, 165 EPZ enterprises have set up their own special Medical Centers to ensure the health and occupational safety. BEPZA is motivating the other operational enterprises to set up medical facilities for the workers. In addition, the EPZ enterprises often arrange some checkup programs like Eye Camp, Health Camp and blood donations program etc. as a part of their CSR activities.

Day Care Centers

Presently there are 93 Day Care Centers for the children of workers in the EPZ enterprises to ensure workers’ devotion to their work and as part of the social responsibilities. The working mothers of these enterprises are now stress-free, as their children are staying close to their working place. BEPZA is striving to set up more Day Care Centers for the other enterprises as well to facilitate the workers.
Workshop and Training for EPZs Workers

BEPZA organizes workshop and training for the workers of EPZs to create awareness on different issues like; fire safety, earthquake etc. In this regard, Export Processing Zones arrange those programs regularly with workers for enhancing awareness of relevant matters. Time to time Executive Chairman of BEPZA or General Manager of EPZs conduct this kind of workshop and training program with WWA members.

Educational Institutions

BEPZA has set up educational institutions, such as, Schools & Colleges in the EPZs for providing good education to the children of the employees working in BEPZA as well as EPZ enterprises. BEPZA closely monitors these works to ensure the quality of education in these institutions. BEPZA also provides subsidy to these schools & colleges so that the children of the poor employees can afford the cost of getting education in these institutes.

Sports & Cultural Activities

BEPZA as well as the EPZ enterprises regularly arrange sports & cultural programs for the recreation of their employees. Bangladesh Television’s popular magazine program ‘Ittadi’ was once shot in Dhaka EPZ’s premises where the workers and the production activities of the EPZ highlighted. Moreover, some factories arranged Star Watch Program, which helped the workers to focus those talents through media campaign.
WORKFORCE

Cohesive Team Work
Wages
Benefit
Compliances
Workplace Safety
WWA Election
Skill Development
The enterprises have developed the working environment in EPZ significantly throughout the years. Considering the increasing cost of living for workers, the minimum wages structure for the EPZ work forces has revised in 2010 mentioning both BDT and USD figure. The ‘EPZ Workers Welfare Association Act’ has enacted by the Honourable Prime Minister to ensure the freedom of association including collective bargaining rights of the EPZ’s workers. The total compensation for EPZ workers and employees is certainly higher than that of non-EPZ area. The Social Protection as wages & compensation, working hours, leave & holiday, gender issues, Social Dialogue and Employment Relationships, Health & Safety at Work etc. are protects within the umbrella of BEPZA Instructions 1 & 2 of 1989.

Cohesive Team Work

EPZs are operating with the objectives of serving production friendly atmosphere, making Harmony Bridge by linking employer, employee, and amicable cohesive team works, which is the core of strength in EPZs. It is one of the duties of the Executive Chairman to arrange regular meeting with owner, management and workers to ensure labour welfare and peaceful working environment.

Wages

The EPZ workers always well paid in real compensation. The Honourable Prime Minister has re-fixed the minimum wage structure for EPZ workers in 2010 by increasing in a range of 34% - 95% in nominal sum. Minimum basic wage for helper is US$ 48 now and the figure is gradually increased up to high skilled workers its minimum US$ 109 and more. Workers of EPZs are getting their wages almost 30% more in comparison with outside of EPZs.

Benefits

Workers of EPZs are obtaining yearly 10% increment, house rent, medical allowances, canteen facilities, free lunch or allowances and transport or allowances, night allowance, production bonus, uniform, provident fund, maternity benefits, termination benefits, earned leave etc.
Compliances

In terms of Industrial Relation parameters, enterprises in EPZs have achieved 93% compliance on average within June 2013. BEPZA is on its right track to attain it to 100%. BEPZA has appointed 60 Social Counselors and 30 Environment Counselors for all EPZs to ensure both the social compliance issues and environment compliance issues to mitigate the disputes of the labours. Achievements in some of the basic parameters are 92% for Service Contract, 100% for Child labour & Forced labour and Discrimination, 94% for Leave & Holiday.

Workplace Safety

BEPZA ensures that most of the factories in the EPZs maintain the international standards in terms of working environment for the workers. The working environment in the enterprises of the EPZs is quite satisfactory. BEPZA is very much aware about social responsibilities and ensuring welfare of the workers, which include security, fire and police station etc. The frequency and the number of fire incidents in the enterprises of the EPZs is quite low with compared to the other factories situated outside EPZs. BEPZA has strong fire fighting team led by a ‘Fire Consultant’ (a retired Director of Fire Service and Civil Defense Department) in every EPZ who arranges regular fire fighting drill as well as training for the workers and staffs in their respective enterprises to build awareness. All enterprises operating in EPZs have to obtain Fire License from Fire Service and Civil Defense Department of Bangladesh.

Building code is strictly monitored from time to time by the ‘Engineering Department of BEPZA’. The enterprises operating within EPZs have to provide Building Safety Certificate issued by government enlisted concerned Technological Institutions, which verified by the Engineering Department of the specific zone.