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BEPZA Bulletin

A Quarterly Journal of the Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority April-June, 2015 Issue



Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the Central Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) of Comilla EPZ on 25 May 2015. The Executive Chairman of BEPZA Major General Mohd Habibur Rahman Khan, ndc, psc was present while unveiling the inauguration plaque at Comilla Town Hall. This CETP is treating the liquid waste of the enterprises of Comilla EPZ, which is playing an effective role for the environmental development of EPZ and its surroundings.

Besides the inauguration of CETP, the Prime Minister also inaugurated nine completed projects and laid nine foundation stones of the new ones by unveiling plaques on that day at the same venue.

M/s Sigma Engineers Limited (CETP) constructed this Central ETP at a cost of Tk. 38.50 crore. It is refining the effluent both in chemical and biological system. Refining capacity of this CETP is 15,000 cubic meters per day. At the first stage, 11 enterprises that need ETP have connected with this Central ETP by shutting down their own ETP. Earlier, the treatment cost was high in

the individual ETP and the enterprises had to spend more money. However, after commissioning of CETP, the treatment cost has reduced and the quality of refinement improved as the effluent treated centrally. Presently, the enterprises are charged TK 27.50 per cubic meter to treat their effluent. No more separate ETP will be needed for the enterprises of Comilla EPZ.

With the establishment of CETP in Comilla EPZ, three EPZs of BEPZA out of total eight came under Central Effluent Treatment Plant facilities that will certainly expedite the activities of

BEPZA with the green concept exercise. Earlier BEPZA established CETP in Dhaka & Chittagong EPZ, which are now operating in full swing. Except EPZ no other CETP exist in the country.

Mentionable, Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the Comilla EPZ on July 15, 2000. Moreover, she inaugurated Mongla, Ishwardi, Uttara including extension zone of Dhaka EPZ. Besides, she also extended the Chittagong EPZ to the 3rd phase.

Under direct supervision of the Prime Minister BEPZA is now one of the most successful organizations of the country.



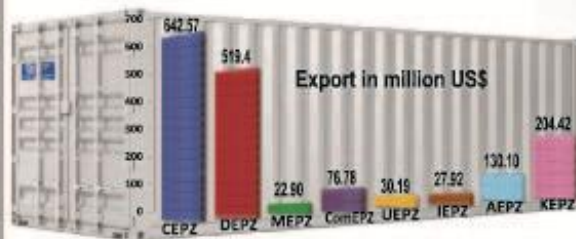
CETP of Comilla EPZ



Growth Trend

Investment Gained US\$ 114.03 M

US\$ 114.03 million have been invested in the 8 EPZs from April to June, 2015. Of these Chittagong EPZ gained US\$ 49.19 million followed by Karnaphuli EPZ US\$ 23.26 million, Dhaka EPZ US\$ 14.33 million, Adamjee EPZ US\$ 10.28 million, Comilla EPZ US\$ 9.04 million, Uttara EPZ US\$ 5.19 million, Mongla EPZ US\$ 2.2 million and Ishwardi EPZ US\$ 0.54 million.



Export Earnings US\$ 1653.44 M

The enterprises of EPZs have exported goods worth US\$ 1653.44 million in last 3 months. Export earnings from Chittagong EPZ was US\$ 642.57 million while that of Dhaka EPZ US\$ 519.4 million, Mongla EPZ US\$ 22.90 million. Comilla EPZ US\$ 76.78 million, Uttara EPZ US\$ 30.19 million, Ishwardi EPZ US\$ 27.92 million, Adamjee EPZ US\$ 130.1 million and Karnaphuli EPZ US\$ 204.42 million.

Publisher's Pen

BEPZA is marching ahead consistently with its objectives to build stronger and economically prosperous Bangladesh. Success story of this organization is very long and everyday its length is mounting. We are very happy to share some of our success stories through our regular publication BEPZA Bulletin.

BEPZA is working uncompromisingly to make the EPZs eco-friendly as a part of this it has established Central ETP at Comilla EPZ, which was formally inaugurated by the Hon'ble PM in May. We decorated the cover story on this inauguration program.

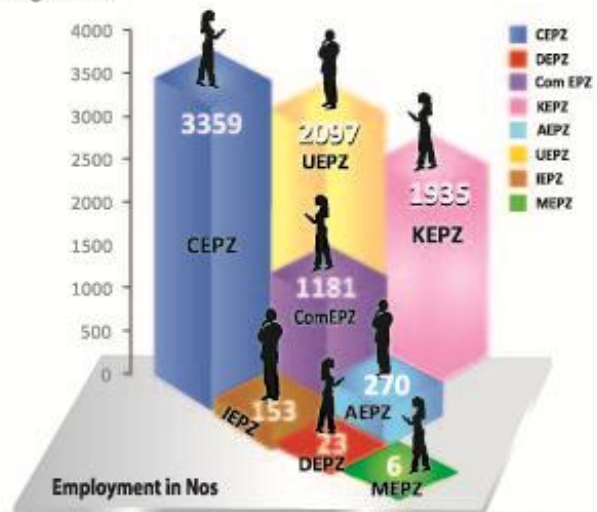
In the fiscal year 2014-15, BEPZA has achieved a notable growth in export, employment and investment. EPZs have exceeded the export target, achieved over 107% employment growth than the previous FY and Investment has been escalated. We have shared these achievements through the Exclusive page.

The visit of Indian PM to Bangladesh has strengthened the bond between Bangladesh & India; we have highlighted it in the national page. This page is also carrying PMO & BEPZA meeting on APA. Workforce page focuses donation of ambulances in EPZs Medical Centers, awareness building workshop and training program for WWA and ECM's observation on factory atmosphere in Comilla EPZ. X-Tra page tinted with BEPZA's promotional drive in Dubai & Thailand. This issue also bring to light Growth trend, BEPZA officials training program in Thailand, Investment Seminars in EPZs and Visits of important delegates alongwith various stories which taken place in our regular pages.

Nice cooperation of every Zone & IP Division made our work easy. We are thankful to them. All supports helped Public Relations Department to bring out this journal.

9025 Manpower added

A total number of 9,025 Bangladeshi workers got job opportunities in the operating industrial units of EPZs during April-June, 2015. Of them 3,359 in Chittagong EPZ, 2,097 in Uttara EPZ, 1,935 in Karnaphuli EPZ, 1,181 in Comilla EPZ, 270 in Adamjee EPZ, 153 in Ishwardi EPZ, 23 in Dhaka and 06 in Mongla EPZ.





Indo-Bangla Bond to Facilitate Two Nations & Regional Development

Bangladesh and India opened a new chapter of hopes in their relations, laden with prejudiced diplomacy and sluggish bureaucracy over the decades through the visit of Indian Prime Minister. Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina gave a red carpet welcome to the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi when he arrived in Dhaka on his two-day state visit on 06 June 2015.

In a joint press conference at PMO Indian PM said, 'This visit would strengthen the bond between the two nations and benefit the people of the two countries as well as of the region.' Thus, the day began setting up the stage for inking 22 deals to boost economic growth, connectivity and security cooperation. Top leaders of the two countries translated their goodwill in actions by signing a host of treaties and agreements to pave the way for regional connectivity, economic development and increasing people-to-people contact. After signing the deals Mr. Narendra Modi said, 'Connectivity by road, rail, rivers, sea, transmission lines, petroleum pipelines and digital links will increase.' Sheikh Hasina mentioned that connectivity across the region would reduce inequality and maximise welfare gains.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi (left) and Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina (right) at a joint Press Conference at PMO

Indian Prime Minister also touched upon the issue of Bangladesh's trade deficit of \$5.5 billion with India and assured Sheikh Hasina that he would do everything to bridge the deficit. Sheikh Hasina mentioned that the new trade facilitation measures incorporated in signed agreements would create new opportunities for more trade, investment and business. To bring balance in trade between the two countries she said both countries agreed to establish Special Economic Zones in Mongla and Bheramara for India. Bangladeshi PM uttered, 'We hope this would increase Indian investment in Bangladesh substantially. We have signed a number of bilateral documents, covering diverse areas of supports.' These include economic assistance, trade and investment, security, infrastructure development, education, science and technology, IT and culture. These deals give a clear indication that the two sides want to strengthen bilateral co-operation and integrate economic activities through rail, road and waterways connectivity.

Mr. Narendra Modi wrapped up his two-day maiden Bangladesh visit to wish common prosperity and future while identifying progress in sub-regional collaboration as a major achievement of his tour. India and Bangladesh have issued a 65-point Joint Declaration on Modi's visit, aiming to harness the full potential of partnership in various sectors. (Source: BSS)

PMO & BEPZA Meeting on APA to Achieve the Performance Target

A meeting was organized to implement Annual Performance Agreement (APA) between Prime Minister's Office and BEPZA on 10 June 2015 at BEPZA Complex, Dhaka. Mr. Md. Abul Kalam Azad, Principal Secretary of Prime Minister's Office was presided over the meeting. Major General Mohd Habibur Rahman Khan, ndc, psc, the Executive Chairman, BEPZA conducted the meeting. This special meeting arranged with BEPZA officials on APA where government is going to introduce a new concept of Annual Performance to implement Vision-2021.

Principal Secretary said 'BEPZA is directly under Prime Minister's Office, that's why we are going to implement this APA with BEPZA as a model. As part of this initiative, the vision, mission, objectives and activities of the organizations have been reviewed in detail'. He appreciates BEPZA that it is playing a pivotal role in socio-economic development of the country. Mr. Azad lauded for remarkable success of Bangladesh EPZ Authority during last six years of this government.

Mr. Ashrafal Kabir, GM (IP) gave a presentation on APA in the meeting. Mr. Md. Abul Kalam Azad said BEPZA gradually implementing the performance targets and strengthening training programs, seminars and digitalization activities to improve expertise of the organization. He expected this meeting will fruitful for all the officers of BEPZA to understand their responsibility to achieve successfully the performance target of APA for 2015-16 in future also. Principal Secretary praised BEPZA officials for their sincerity and efficiency.



Mr. Abul Kalam Azad, Principal Secretary (PS) discussed with BEPZA officials in a meeting on APA



20 Officers of BEPZA Trained on ERP & IT Application from AIT, Thailand in June, 2015

20 BEPZA Officers Trained on ERP & IT Application from AIT

20 officers from the different departments of BEPZA have successfully completed a training program on "Selective Enterprise Resource Planning and Information Technology Application" from 8-19 June, 2015 in Thailand. This two weeks customized professional certificate training program organized by Asian Institute of Technology (AIT).

The principal aim of this training program was to enhance the skills of the BEPZA officials on the use of ERP tools. Also, enhance the knowledge on IT application for office security and communication. The Scholars of AIT conducted every session of the program where the officers learned many aspects regarding these subjects. The trainees also visited Thai Customs Department, Thai Chamber of Commerce & Board of Trade of Thailand and Nava Nacorn Industrial Zone to get practical knowledge about the implementation of ERP & IT in these organizations.

Major General Mohd Habibur Rahman Khan, ndc, psc, Executive Chairman of BEPZA was present at the certificate awarding ceremony as Chief Guest. He thanked AIT for organizing such a valuable training for BEPZA officials and hoped that the participants will execute their knowledge for the development of BEPZA. Mrs. Saida Muna Tasneem, Ambassador of Bangladesh in Thailand was also present in the ceremonial as Special Guest. Among other Dr. Jonathan Shaw, Executive Director, AIT Extension, Mr. Fazle Karim, Head of IT & Engineering, AIT and other senior officials of AIT Extension were present in the ceremony.

BEPZA Chief Inspects CETP in Comilla EPZ

BEPZA strictly maintains peaceful eco-friendly working environment in EPZs by monitoring the workplace conditions from time to time. As a part of this, BEPZA has set up a Central Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) in Comilla EPZ to play a supportive role in the environmental development of EPZ.

The Executive Chairman of BEPZA Major General Mohd Habibur Rahman Khan, ndc, psc, visited CETP of Comilla EPZ on 25 May 2015. BEPZA Chief stated, 'This Central ETP will be more standard and will keep the environment pollution free.' He went on a round of different part of the plant and talked with Engineers to know feedback. He also observed various ongoing development projects, proposed Mosque area and planted a tree in CETP premises.

Executive Chairman accompanied by Mrs. Nazma Binte Alamgir, GM (Public Relations), Mr. Abdus Sobhan, GM (Comilla EPZ), Major Sajjad Hossain Khan, DGM (Intelligence) and Mr. Md. Jillur Rahman, DGM (Maintenance).



Major General Mohd Habibur Rahman Khan, Executive Chairman, BEPZA visited CETP of Comilla EPZ

3 GM & 3 DGM Promoted in BEPZA



Mr. Mahmud Hossain, GM, Mr. Abdur Sobhan, GM, Mr. Khoshdel Alam, GM



Abdullah Al-Mahbub, DGM, Md. Tofazzal Hossain, DGM, Mr. Habibur Rahman, DGM

In the 3rd week of June 2015 BEPZA has promoted 3 General Manager for Zone and Investment Promotion Division.

Other 3 Deputy General Manager also got promotion in Administration & Accounts departments.

BEPZA Celebrates Pohela Boishakh-1422

The Bengali New Year 'Pohela Boishakh' is bringing Bangladeshi nation all together in a festivity of cultural practice rooted deeply in secular ethos. It propels us to step out on the streets in droves as vivacious concourse. In celebration of the collective spirit, this constitutes the most basic pillar of our non-communal culture.

In this regard, BEPZA family enjoyed lots in the occasion of 'Pohela Boishakh 1422' at Executive Office, Dhaka. BEPZA employees celebrated this day through assemblage traditional food fiesta. As well as, all EPZs also officially celebrated this colourful festival in a joyful environment.



BEPZA employees celebrated Pohela Boishakh in a colourful festive manner

New Member Engineering in BEPZA



Mr. Mohammad Mosaddeque Ali, Joint Secretary, Govt. of Bangladesh joined BEPZA as Member (Engineering) on 10 June 2015.

Prior to joining BEPZA Mr. Mosaddeque Ali was Director General of Hydrocarbon Unit in the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources.



Investment Promotion Seminar for 3 EPZs organized in Comilla EPZ on 10 May, 2015

Investment Seminars in EPZs

Export Processing Zones under BEPZA organized seminars in their premises during last three months to promote and highlights EPZs located in Northern & Southern part of the country. On the backdrop of ongoing demand of plots for expansion of the business by the existing investors and new plots for the prospective investors, the authority realized the necessities to focus every detail of the Mongla, Ishwardi and Uttara EPZ for attracting potential investors.

In the first session of the seminars were started with a brief on the prevailing congenial investment climate of those 3 EPZs, where General Managers of each EPZs delivered their welcome speech. The seminars highlights on 7 years tax holiday, reduce rate for land and standard factory building, logistics support, connectivity with sea, rail, road & air and future facilities which would be important factors to boost up export performance of Mongla, Ishwardi and Uttara EPZ in future. Video documentary and power point presentation shown to focused these 3 EPZs. Uttara, Ishwardi and Mongla EPZs are leading from the front of field of products diversification; Cheapest and skilled workforce of which are producing various diversified items like bamboo made coffin, wig & fashion hair, toy, optical frame & sunglasses, branded leather bags, tent, battery etc. It maybe mentioned that presently 46 enterprises from different countries are in operation in these 3 EPZs.

Existing investors expressed their satisfaction with having such types of co-operations and services received from EPZ Authority. Especially the foreign investors appreciated the skill level of the workers and work enthusiast labour force of Bangladesh; finally, they showed their keen interest to visit in those three EPZs, which will help them to make decision to invest there. General Manager of EPZs arranged the seminars where all guests appreciated that these seminars provided them opportunities to know about three EPZs, which appeared to be less known to the investors before. The participants expressed their deep satisfaction for holding such an informative session by the Authority. The majority of the participants were existing investors of EPZs & their representatives, leaders of different local Chamber of Commerce & Industry, senior operational heads of local business group and potential entrepreneurs.



Mr. Hiroki Otani VC, YKK (left) and Major General Mohd Habibur Rahman Khan, Executive Chairman, BEPZA (right)

YKK Vice President Greets BEPZA Chief

Mr Hiroki Otani, Vice President of Japanese YKK Corporation meets with Major General Mohd Habibur Rahman Khan, ndc, psc, Executive Chairman of BEPZA on 29 June, 2015 at BEPZA Complex. They discussed mainly on compliance issues of factory, ensuring amicable relationship in working place and such other different issues. It was focused on development of bi-lateral relations of them.

Chinese Communist Party Lauded EPZ's Atmosphere

Mr. Guo Yezhou, Vice Minister of International Relations Department, Central Community of CPC lauded for keeping harmonious working conditions, eco-friendly production climate in Chittagong EPZ during his visit on 16 June, 2015. General Manger of Chittagong EPZ highlighted the EPZs' of Bangladesh through multimedia presentation.

The 6-member delegation went around a garments plant M/s Pacific Jeans Ltd and a textile factory M/s Denim Plus.



A Team of Chinese Communist Party tour around Pacific Jeans Ltd in CEPZ

DGFI Team Praised on Congenial Climate of EPZ

Mr. Ehsanul Gani Choudhury, Air Commodore, EALB, DGFI along with foreign Defense & Military Attaches of 8 different countries praised on the activities and congenial investment climate in EPZs while they visited Dhaka EPZ on 11 June 2015. Mr. Sayed Nurul Islam, Member (Investment Promotion) of BEPZA welcomes them cordially. General Manager of DEPZ depicted about the booming scenarios of EPZ's particularly on export, investment and employment.

As a part of this visit, 16 members DGFI delegation went around a RMG factory M/s Tigerco Ltd. and a plastic product manufacturing company M/s Young Optics (BD) Ltd.



DGFI delegation visited Tigerco limited RMG factory/Tigerco Ltd. in Dhaka EPZ



Achievement of BEPZA in 2014-15 FY

Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA) is flourishing day by day with its eight EPZs. Every year, it is exceeding the success of the previous year. In terms of attracting investment, acceleration & diversification of export and generation of employment opportunities in EPZs, BEPZA is leading from the front as a single organization. Moreover, it has been playing a very important role in the socio-economic development of the country. Now BEPZA is well known as the success icon in the country and EPZs of Bangladesh is prominent as Bonanza for the Investors. In the past couple of years, BEPZA's achievement in export, investment & employment was remarkable. This growth trend also continued in 2014-15 fiscal year. BEPZA gained investment of US\$ 406.35 million, exported goods worth of US\$ 6113.49 million and created job opportunity for 31,084 Bangladeshi nationals in the last fiscal year.

Export exceeded the target

In the last fiscal year, BEPZA achieved a notable success in export. Goods worth of US\$ 6113.49 million have been exported from the enterprises of EPZs in 2014-15 fiscal year against US\$ 5700 million export target. It means that BEPZA has exported goods more than US\$ 413.49 million that exceeded the target. It was US\$ 5525.31 million in the previous fiscal year 2013-14.



In the last fiscal year export from Chittagong EPZ was US\$ 2383.76 million followed by Dhaka EPZ US\$ 1997.50 million, Karnaphuli EPZ US\$ 709.74 million, Adamjee EPZ US\$ 467.4 million, Comilla EPZ US\$ 274.63 million, Mongla EPZ US\$ 84.26 million, Ishwardi EPZ US\$ 108.26 million and Uttara EPZ US\$ 87.99 million. The cumulative export earnings from eight EPZs stand at US\$ 46141.16 million till June 2015.

National Export Contribution

8 EPZs of BEPZA consist only 2307.27 acres of land. From this very little area, BEPZA is contributing a huge amount in the economy of Bangladesh. In 2014-15 fiscal year BEPZA's contribution to the total national export was 19.59% which was 18.30% in the previous fiscal year. This contribution is growing every year.



BEPZA achieved an outstanding success in employment generation attaining growth of over 107%. In 2014-15 fiscal year BEPZA created job opportunities for 31,084 Bangladeshi nationals. The figure was 15,009 in the 2013-14 fiscal year. Among them 9,167 persons are employed in Karnaphuli EPZ, 8,194 in Chittagong EPZ, 5,347 in Comilla EPZ, 4,084 in Adamjee EPZ, 4,864 in Uttara EPZ, 1,129 in Ishwardi EPZ and 182 in Mongla EPZ. 4,20,101 Bangladeshi nationals are working in 8 EPZs till June 2015.

Investment escalated \$ 3.77 M

US\$ 406.35 million actual investment has been made by operational & under construction plants of 8 EPZs during 2014-15 fiscal year where as it was US\$ 402.58 in the previous FY. The investment has not been increased significantly in the EPZs due to scarcity of land in the most lucrative EPZs. BEPZA is trying to meet up with the growing demand of the investors by vertical expansion of the factory buildings and motivating the prospective investors to go over the Uttara, Mongla and Ishwardi EPZ.



Investment inflows rise by US \$ 3.77 million in 2014-15 fiscal year. Of these US\$ 152.02 million gained in Chittagong EPZ, while that of US\$ 84.02 million in Dhaka EPZ, US\$ 64.81 million Karnaphuli EPZ, US\$ 48.51 million Adamjee EPZ, US\$ 23.41 million Comilla EPZ, US\$ 19.89 million Uttara EPZ, US\$ 5.42 million Ishwardi EPZ and US\$ 8.27 million in Mongla EPZ. The cumulative investment stands at US\$ 3594.42 million till June 2015.

New Industries & LA

17 new industries have joined to the development fleet of BEPZA in the last fiscal year. At the end of the FY 2014-15 the total number of operational industries of BEPZA reached to 445 from 428 which by the end of 2013-14 FY. 19 more industries have signed lease agreement with BEPZA in 2014-15.

Industries in Numbers





2 Ambulance Added in EPZs' Medical

Lenny Fashions Ltd and their sister concern Lenny Apparels Ltd., Hong Kong & Indian base RMG industries of Dhaka EPZ donated an ambulance to Dhaka EPZ Hospital on 30 June, 2015 as a part of their corporate social responsibility.

On the other side, a Taiwanese company of Karnaphuli EPZ- Xin Chang Shoes (BD) Ltd. has also donated one ambulance to KEPZ Medical Center on 11 May 2015 as same perspective. Mr. Waseem Sidique, CEO of Lenny Fashion & Apparels and Mr. Janes Ho, Chairman of Xin Chang Shoes handed over the ambulances to General Manager of the respective zones. These ambulances will expedite medical facilities to the workers of EPZs.



Cleaning Program in KEPZ

Karnaphuli EPZ has launched cleaning program on 7 April, 2015 to keep industrial environment clean which upshot on health and working atmosphere. KEPZ cleaning program maintains regularly every Tuesday. This initiative has taken to improve environments in the zone with significant impact on worker's hygiene and health.

The success of KEPZ cleaning program will inspire investors of EPZ's as well as workers to keep clean their floor area and factory premises. General Manager of Karnaphuli EPZ and Investors of the zone were actively participated in the cleaning operation.

The Harmony Bridge Linking
Workers-Management-Owners
The Key Strength of EPZs



USA happy over peaceful climate in EPZ

The United States delegation was satisfied with progress of EPZ's workplace safety. Steven Feldstein, Dy Asst Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights & Labour (DRL), Raychel Gemayel, Foreign Affairs Officers and Paula Albertson, Labour Attache, US Embassy visited in Chittagong EPZ on 27 April 2015.

During their visit, General Manager, Chittagong EPZ briefed them about labours compliance issues & framework of WWA. They went around South Koran factory Young An Hat (BD) Ltd. and expressed satisfaction over the congenial working environment of the company.

BEPZA Chief Observed factory atmosphere of Comilla EPZ

To maintain peaceful working atmosphere in EPZs and workplace conditions, BEPZA Chief frequently visits factories of each EPZs. As a part of this, Major General Mohd Habibur Rahman Khan has visited Comilla EPZ on 25 May 2015.

He went around UK & Chinese owned company M/s Tung Hing (Bangladesh) Mfg. Ltd. in Comilla EPZ and talked about production system, workers condition, workplace safety & compliances etc.



Awareness



Mrs. Nafisa Akter, GM, Karnaphuli EPZ addressing to the members of WWA

WWA Training in KEPZ

Karnaphuli EPZ organized an internal training program for members of Workers Welfare Associations (WWA) on 8 June 2015. This training program will enhance the awareness of workers on the relevant rules & regularities and BEPZA Instructions, industrial relations Act of WWA.

General Manager of KEPZ presided over the program and Counsellors & Industrial Relations Department conducted the training. This type of training program organized regularly in other EPZ also.

Earthquake - Fire Workshop in DEPZ

To build awareness about earthquake & fire safety of the workers, a workshop was jointly organized by Dhaka EPZ and Fire Service & Civil Defence in DEPZ on 06 May, 2015. Mr. Md. Ahsan Kabir, GM of Dhaka EPZ inaugurated the workshop. Members of the Workers Welfare Association of different industries of DEPZ participated in the awareness program.

Mr. Mamoon Mahmood, Deputy Assistant Director, Fire Service & Civil Defence briefed about earthquake and fire safety awareness. Mr. Abdul Hamid Mia, Sr. Station Officer of EPZ Fire Station highlighted the self-defence technique to the workers during earthquake & fire incident.



Earthquake - Fire Safety Workshop in Dhaka EPZ



WORLD FREE ZONES ORGANIZATION



Key business leaders and international business delegates at WFZO Conference in Dubai

WFZO Conference in Dubai

The Executive Chairman of BEPZA Major General Mohd Habibur Rahman Khan, ndc, psc participated in the 1st Annual International Conference & Exhibition organized by World Free Zone Organization held in Dubai, UAE from 11-14 May, 2015. Md. Fazlul Haque Mazumder, Deputy Manager (IP) during this conference, accompanied him.

The conference organized under the patronage of Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates & Ruler of Dubai. The conference held in the presence of Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, President of the Department of Civil Aviation, CEO and Chairman of The Emirates Group, who is also the Chairman of Dubai World.

The conference attended by 675 delegates and also participated 1,600 via live stream from 120 countries. This attracted 40 world famous speakers along with global free zone practitioners, academics, policy makers, multi-lateral organizations and business representatives. They exchanged ideas, experiences and visions to build a more integrated world trade environment. Robert Koopman, Chief Economist and Director, Economic Research and Statistics Division of the World Trade Zone discussed global trends, challenges and opportunities. Xavier Sala-I-Martin, Professor of Economics at Columbia University commented on the history of world trade and economic benefits of exchanging ideas. Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem, Chairman of Port, Customs, Free Zone Corporation and Chairman DP World highlighted the importance of strong leadership and a spirit of innovation in developing successful Free Zones.

Furthermore, BEPZA delegation attended a bi-lateral meeting with Dr. Mohammed Alzarooni, Chairperson and Dr Samir Hamrouni, CEO of the World Free Zones Organization. Some bi-lateral issues discussed in the meeting and both the parties agreed to exchange their views, idea & tour with each other. BEPZA Chief focused on investment opportunities in the EPZs at two investment seminars held in Dubai & Sharjah. Investors of UAE have shown keen interest to invest in the EPZs of Bangladesh.

PROMOTIONAL DRIVE ABROAD

Investment Seminar with Thai Chamber

Major General Mohd Habibur Rahman Khan, Executive Chairman, BEPZA urged Thai Business Executives to invest in the EPZs of Bangladesh. BEPZA Chief sought it during a bilateral trade and investment promotion meeting between BEPZA and Thai Chamber of Commerce & Board of Trade of Thailand (TCC & BTT) in Thailand on June 18, 2015. A- 20 members BEPZA delegation headed by the Executive Chairman and a team of 13 business persons led by Mr. Mingpant Chayavichitsilp, President of Thai Bangladesh Business Council were present at the meeting.

Mr. Mingpant Chayavichitsilp welcomes BEPZA delegation for visiting the Thai Chamber. BEPZA Chief shared several facts to provide some insight of the EPZ's background, achievement and its operational procedures as well as investment climate. He highlighted on success scenarios and overall performance regarding investment, export & employment of eight EPZs.

The Thai Business Team was very much impressed to see the video presentation of BEPZA and want to know about the investment opportunities in the EPZs of Bangladesh including package of incentives as well as other advantages. The Executive Chairman informed them our main strength is the investor friendly environment, one window same day service and low cost of doing business. BEPZA Chief requested them to visit Bangladesh and have a look in Ishwardi, Mongla and Uttara EPZ. In response to a Thai Business Executive regarding setting up agro-based industry the Executive Chairman said, Ishwardi EPZ is the best place for agro-based investment.

Describing his long relationship with Bangladesh Mr. Mingpant Chayavichitsilp urged the Thai entrepreneurs to invest in Bangladesh. Investors will get the facilities in declaring 'halal food' if they set up the food processing industries in EPZs since Bangladesh is a Muslim majority country and one of the members of OIC, he added. Finally, BEPZA Chief Major General Habib thanked the Thai Chamber of Commerce & Board of Trade of Thailand for arranging such a wonderful meeting. He hoped that after the meeting EPZs of Bangladesh would get investment from Thailand.



BEPZA Chairman's presentation to President of Thai Chamber of Commerce (TCC & BTT)



Beginning with BEPZA

Japanese Bag & Luggage Company to Invest US\$ 15 M in Karnaphuli EPZ

Japan is going to set up a bag and luggage plant in Karnaphuli EPZ. This company to be known as M/s Nas Outdoors Limited. It will invest US\$ 15 million for setting up this factory with annual production capacity of 600,000 pcs of bag & luggage and 2 million pcs of handbags. Nas Outdoors Ltd. industry will create employment opportunity for 3000 Bangladeshi nationals.

An agreement to this effect signed between Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority and M/s Nas Outdoors Ltd. Mr. Sayed Nurul Islam, Member (Investment Promotion) of BEPZA and Mr. Takao Sato, Chairman of Nas Outdoors Ltd. signed the deal on behalf of their respective organizations on 20 April 2015.

South Korean Leather Industry to Invest US\$ 8 M in Mongla EPZ

M/s Masters Leather Limited, a South Korean company will invest US\$ 8 million to establish a leather products industry in Mongla EPZ.

This venture will annually produce 1.72 million pcs women & men handbag, luggage & travelling bag, book cover, pencil case & holder, hand phone case, leather apron and leather cushion. Masters Leather company will create employment opportunity for 2038 Bangladeshi nationals.

Mr. Sayed Nurul Islam, Member (Investment Promotion) of BEPZA and Mr. Kyung Sik Kim, Managing Director of Masters Leather Limited inked the deal on behalf of their respective organizations on 09 April 2015.



Member (Investment Promotion) and M/s Masters Leather exchange documents after inked the deal in presence of BEPZA Chief

Major General Mohd. Habibur Rahman Khan, ndc, psc, Executive Chairman, Mr. Md. Shawkat Nabi, Secretary, Mrs. Nazma Binte Alamgir, General Manager (Public Relations) and Mr. Md. Nurul Haque General Manager (Enterprise Services) of BEPZA were present at the signing ceremony.

Taiwanese Bicycle Accessories Plant to Invest US\$ 5.46 M in Karnaphuli EPZ

M/s Trident Cycles Company Limited of Taiwan will invest US\$ 5.46 million to establish a bicycle accessories manufacturing plant in Karnaphuli EPZ.

In this regard, Mr. Sayed Nurul Islam, Member (Investment Promotion) of BEPZA and Mr. Lai Chu Lin, Director of Trident Cycles Company Limited signed an agreement on behalf of their respective organizations on 26 May 2015.

291 Bangladeshi nationals will get job in Trident Cycles factory. This company will yearly produce 1.15 million pcs steel frame, alloy frame, forks and handlebars.

Singaporean Garments Factory to Invest US\$ 9.6 M in Chittagong EPZ

Singaporean company M/s Global Value Enterprises Limited will invest US\$ 8 million to establish a readymade garments factory in Mongla EPZ.

The annual production capacity of this factory is 5 million pcs shirt, pant, trousers, jacket, polo shirt, ladies top & bottom, short & swimming short etc. per annum. Global Value factory will create employment opportunity for 4035 Bangladeshi nationals.

Mr. Sayed Nurul Islam, Member (Investment Promotion) of BEPZA and Mr. Tan Boon Thomas, Chairman of Global Value Enterprises Limited signed the lease agreement on 23 June 2015 at BEPZA Complex, Dhaka.



Cumulative Scenarios of EPZs

EPZ	Unit (Nos)		Export (US\$ m)	Investment (US\$ m)	Workforce (Number)
	Operation	U/IMP			
Chittagong	168	14	21803.10	1355.54	1,90,815
Dhaka	104	9	18300.15	1141.36	86,638
Comilla	38	29	1373.28	224.50	21,821
Mongla	19	15	364.41	22.11	1,598
Uttara	13	9	166.70	80.49	16,003
Ishwardi	14	10	340.02	81.42	8,323
Adamjee	45	18	1688.28	316.48	40,091
Karnaphuli	44	17	2105.22	372.53	54,812
Total	445	121	46141.16	3594.42	4,20,101



Bangladesh	131	Indonesia	2
S. Korea	73	Spain	2
China	33	Denmark	2
Hong Kong, China	24	Belgium	1
Taiwan, China	25	Ireland	1
Japan	23	Ukraine	1
India	22	Panama	1
USA	18	Sweden	1
UK	17	Marshall Island	1
Malaysia	9	UAE	1
Pakistan	8	Romania	1
Sri Lanka	7	Australia	1
Germany	6	Malta	1
The Netherlands	5	Cayman Islands	1
Canada	5	Kuwait	1
Italy	5	Turkey	1
British Virgin Island	4	Mauritius	UIMP
Singapore	3	Oman	SNC
France	3	Portugal	JV



Garments	109
RMG Accessories	86
Knit & Other Textile	36
Textile	40
Footwear & Leather	30
Terry Towel	18
Electronics & Electricals	16
Plastic Goods	15
Metal Products	13
Agro Products	10
Jewellery	1
Tent	10
Service Industries	8
Cap	5
Chemical	5
Furniture	3
Ropes	2
Power Industry	2
Paper Products	3
Fishing Reel & Golf Items	1
Sports Goods	1
Toys	1
Miscellaneous	30

