

INAUGURATION OF NEW OFFICE PREMISES OF CANCHAM BANGLADESH

A GATEWAY TO
CANADA - BANGLADESH
TRADE & INVESTMENT



Photo: H.E. Ajit Singh, High Commissioner of Canada to Bangladesh (second from left), Senior Trade Commissioner of HCC (second from right), CanCham Bangladesh President (center) and Board of Directors in Ribbon Cutting Ceremony of CanCham Bangladesh New Office Premises.

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CanCham Review is the in-house journal of news and views for management executives and members of the Canada-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce & Industry (CanCham Bangladesh). This issue marks the 20th (XX) Edition of CanCham Review. The views expressed in this journal are those of the respective authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of CanCham Bangladesh.

All editions of CanCham Review are now available online at: <https://canchambangladesh.org/magazine/>

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Message from President, CanCham Bangladesh

I have the pleasure to welcome you to the XX Volume of CanCham Review which reflects the growing partnership between Bangladesh and Canada and the opportunities that lie ahead.

It is gratifying to note that Canada-Bangladesh Trade crossed a significant milestone of US\$4 billion in 2025, in spite of recent upheavals in Bangladesh and disruption of trade routes due to war in the Middle East. This shows the growing complementary nature and strength of commercial relations existing between the two economies. It also highlights the potentials for further cooperation in trade, investment, renewable energy, technology, agriculture and advanced manufacturing, as recommended by the Canada- Bangladesh Joint Working Group (JWG). Exports of Bangladesh mainly constitute of Readymade Garments (87%), Footwear (4%), Textile Products (4%) and Headgear (4%) while Exports from Canada are Wheat and Cereals (40%), Pulses and Lentils (20%), Potash and Fertilizers (15%), and Oil Seeds & Agri-products (13%). Further diversification of export products of both the countries is necessary to take the total trade to a higher level.

In the past, CanCham Bangladesh, along with frequent commercial exchanges by its members, has played

a vital role in strengthening business to business engagement, building trust, sharing market information, facilitating partnership through promoting investment opportunities among the stakeholders of both the countries. The future of Bangladesh – Canada trade and investment lies in moving beyond current transactional relationships toward more diversified, high value engagement, having significant potentials to expand cooperation in innovation, sustainability and supply chain management. Bangladesh offers a dynamic Manufacturing base, large supply of easily trainable ingenious labor force, a growing consumer market, and a strategic location within the Indo-Pacific region while Canada has expertise in agriculture, clean technology, education, energy and innovation.

On 7th December, 2025, the Ministry of Commerce, Bangladesh convened a high-level preparatory meeting to review the recommendations of JWG. The launch of the dialogue has created a valuable momentum for strengthening bilateral trade, investment, and economic cooperation. We were also honored to welcome the High Commissioner of Canada to Bangladesh to the newly inaugurated Office Premises of CanCham Bangladesh at Banani, reaffirming our shared commitment to fostering

stronger institutional collaboration and private sector engagement.

Another landmark event was that CanCham Bangladesh's formally joined the Canadian Chambers of the Indo-Pacific (CCIP), through signing of a Memorandum of Understanding by its President, opening new avenues for regional connectivity, business partnerships, and market access across the Indo-Pacific region. This strategic collaboration positions our members to benefit from an expanding network of Canadian businesses and institutions.

As Bangladesh continues its economic transformation on a firm footing under the newly elected Government and Canada seeks reliable partners in the Indo-Pacific, the future of bilateral trade and investment is exceptionally promising. CanCham Bangladesh remains committed to facilitating meaningful dialogue, promoting business opportunities, and strengthening commercial ties between our two friendly nations.

I extend my sincere gratitude to our members, partners, and stakeholders for their continued trust and support to the Chamber. Together, we will continue building a stronger and more prosperous Canada-Bangladesh business relationship in the days ahead.





H. E. AJIT SINGH
High Commissioner
of Canada in Bangladesh

Message from High Commissioner of Canada in Bangladesh

It is a pleasure to contribute a message to this year's CanCham Review of the Canada Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CanCham Bangladesh). I commend the Chamber for its continued leadership in strengthening Canada–Bangladesh commercial relations, fostering dialogue between our business communities, and creating opportunities for shared prosperity.

For more than five decades, Canada and Bangladesh have enjoyed a relationship founded on mutual respect, strong people-to-people ties, and close development cooperation. Today, that partnership is increasingly driven by trade and investment as Bangladesh emerges as one of the world's most dynamic economies. With bilateral merchandise trade reaching record levels in recent years, there is growing momentum and shared ambition to deepen and diversify our economic engagement.

Canada is advancing an integrated approach that aligns trade with sustainable development while expanding commercial partnerships across global markets. In this context, Bangladesh is a strategic partner,

offering a fast-growing economy, a rising middle class, a competitive export sector, and an impressive record of economic progress.

Our commercial relationship continues to mature. Bangladeshi businesses rely on Canadian agrifood products, advanced technologies, and manufacturing inputs, while Canadian companies increasingly recognize Bangladesh as an attractive destination for investment and collaboration across value chains. Our partnership is now defined not only by development cooperation but also by innovation, entrepreneurship, and long-term commercial opportunity.

Over the past year, the High Commission has worked closely with CanCham Bangladesh, the Government of Bangladesh, and the private sector to promote new business opportunities, facilitate technical exchanges, and strengthen commercial partnerships. Promising areas of collaboration continue to expand, including clean energy, sustainable agriculture, education, advanced manufacturing, and emerging technologies. I am encouraged by the commitment of our business communities to advancing

partnerships that foster innovation, sustainability, resilience, and inclusive economic growth. I also congratulate CanCham Bangladesh for its outstanding contribution to advancing our bilateral commercial relationship.

Canada was among the first countries to recognize Bangladesh's independence, laying the foundation for a partnership built on trust, reliability, and enduring friendship. Those values remain as relevant today as ever, particularly in a rapidly changing global environment. As Bangladesh advances to the next stage of its economic transformation and Canada continues to diversify its international trade relationships, organizations such as CanCham Bangladesh will play an increasingly important role in connecting businesses, encouraging investment, and strengthening bilateral cooperation.

I thank the Chamber for its continued partnership and dedication to expanding Canada–Bangladesh economic ties. I look forward to the year ahead and to working together to unlock new opportunities that will deliver lasting benefits for businesses, investors, and communities in both our countries.



BANGLADESH–CANADA TRADE: A PARTNERSHIP GROWING IN DEPTH AND OPPORTUNITY



As my posting in Bangladesh comes to a close, I have had the privilege of witnessing a bilateral commercial relationship that continues to grow in both scale and sophistication. Bangladesh and Canada are natural partners, with complementary economic strengths and a shared interest in inclusive, sustainable growth.

Trade between our countries has expanded steadily, supported by Bangladesh's impressive economic trajectory and its emergence as a resilient, export-oriented economy. Canadian companies are increasingly recognizing opportunities across a

range of sectors, including agri-food, infrastructure, clean technology, education, and services. At the same time, Bangladesh's private sector has evolved rapidly, with firms that are more globally engaged, competitive, and open to international partnerships.

This progress has been accompanied by a deepening of institutional and business-to-business connections. Organizations such as CanCham, along with frequent commercial exchanges, have played an important role in building trust, sharing market knowledge, and facilitating partnerships.

At the same time, there are structural and operational challenges that continue to shape the business environment and require sustained attention. Regulatory complexity, foreign exchange constraints, and logistical bottlenecks can introduce uncertainty and affect the predictability of commercial transactions. Addressing these issues will be important to fully unlock the potential of the bilateral relationship and to support greater participation by Canadian firms, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises.

Looking ahead, the future of

Bangladesh–Canada trade lies in moving beyond transactional relationships toward more diversified, higher-value engagement. There is significant potential to expand collaboration in innovation, sustainability, and supply chain resilience.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the many partners, interlocutors, and colleagues—across government, industry, and the broader business community—who have contributed to strengthening this relationship. Their openness, professionalism, and commitment have made this work both impactful and deeply rewarding. Bangladesh is a country of remarkable energy and ambition, and it has been a privilege to engage with its people. I leave with a strong sense of connection and every confidence that its growth story will continue in the years ahead.

The foundation is strong, and with continued collaboration, the next chapter of Bangladesh–Canada economic cooperation holds considerable promise.

*By: Debra Boyce, Senior Trade Commissioner,
High Commission of Canada to Bangladesh*



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STRENGTHENING CONNECTIONS: CANADA–BANGLADESH TRADE HITS HISTORIC HIGH

The economic partnership between Bangladesh and Canada reached a significant milestone in 2025, with bilateral trade surpassing **US\$4 billion** for the first time. The achievement reflects the growing strength of commercial relations between the two countries and highlights the expanding opportunities for cooperation in trade, investment, renewable energy, technology, agriculture, and advanced manufacturing.

According to the Canadian High Commission in Dhaka, bilateral trade exceeded US\$4 billion in 2025, underscoring the growing importance of Bangladesh as one of Canada's key partners in the Indo-Pacific region. The milestone was highlighted during discussions between Canadian and Bangladeshi officials on expanding cooperation in the energy sector and strengthening economic ties.

Bangladesh continues to be one of Canada's most important trading partners in South Asia. The country's ready-made garments sector remains the backbone of exports to Canada, supplying a wide range of apparel products to Canadian consumers. At the same time, Canada serves as a major supplier of wheat, pulses, potash, fertilizers, and other agricultural commodities that contribute to Bangladesh's food security and industrial development.

The rapid growth in bilateral trade demonstrates the complementary nature of the two economies. Bangladesh offers a dynamic manufacturing base, a growing consumer market, and a strategic location within the Indo-Pacific region, while Canada contributes expertise in agriculture, clean technology, education, energy,

and innovation.

Trade at a Glance

Bilateral Trade (2025): Over US\$4 Billion

Key Bangladeshi Exports to Canada

- Ready-made garments
- Footwear
- Textile products
- Leather goods
- Consumer products

Key Canadian Exports to Bangladesh

- Wheat and cereals
- Pulses and lentils
- Potash and fertilizers
- Oilseeds and agricultural products
- Industrial inputs

Beyond traditional trade, both countries

transition and the commencement of pharmaceutical exports from Bangladesh to Canada, demonstrate the growing diversification of the bilateral economic relationship.

Organizations such as CanCham Bangladesh continue to play a vital role in strengthening business-to-business engagement, promoting investment opportunities, and facilitating dialogue between stakeholders from both countries. As Canada advances its Indo-Pacific Strategy and Bangladesh pursues its vision of becoming a developed economy, prospects for deeper economic cooperation remain highly promising.

With trade now exceeding US\$4 billion annually, the Canada–Bangladesh partnership stands as a

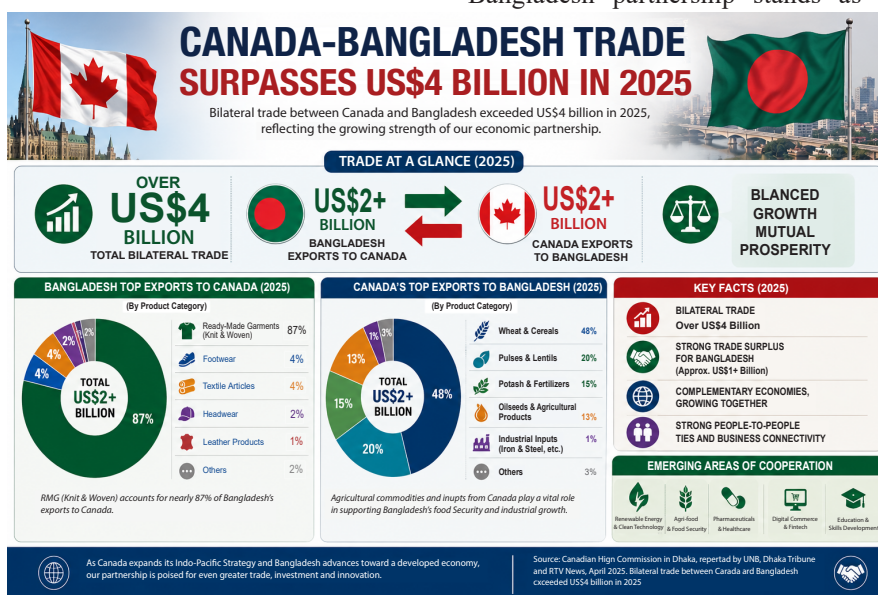


Photo : Canada–Bangladesh Trade Reaches New Heights

are increasingly exploring collaboration in renewable energy, digital commerce, fintech, pharmaceuticals, education, and sustainable supply chains. Recent developments, including discussions on Canadian participation in Bangladesh's clean-energy

testament to the growing connectivity between the two nations and provides a strong foundation for future growth, investment, and prosperity.

Source: Canadian High Commission in Dhaka, reported by UNB, Dhaka Tribune and RTV News, April 2026.





BANGLADESH INVITES GLOBAL INVESTORS TO DRIVE SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH



Photo: Mr. Tarique Rahman, Hon'ble Prime Minister, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Bangladesh has renewed its call to global investors to partner in the country's next phase of economic transformation. Addressing the FICCI FDI Conference 2026 in Dhaka, Prime Minister Tarique

Rahman emphasized the government's commitment to fostering a transparent, predictable, and investment-friendly business environment. He pledged stronger legal safeguards, streamlined

regulations, policy consistency, and enhanced public-private collaboration to attract greater foreign direct investment (FDI). Reaffirming the vision of building a US\$1 trillion economy by 2034, he highlighted the vital role of private sector-led growth, innovation, export diversification, and employment generation. The initiative reflects Bangladesh's determination to strengthen investor confidence, enhance global competitiveness, and position itself as a preferred investment destination in South Asia.

Source: *The Daily Star*, "Invest in Bangladesh, Grow with Us," 24 July 2026; *Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP)*, "Government is Determined to Build One-Trillion-Dollar Economy by 2034," 24 July 2026.

UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY ELECTS BANGLADESH'S RAHMAN AS NEXT PRESIDENT



Photo: Bangladeshi Foreign Minister Mr. Khalilur Rahman, newly-elected President of the eighty-first session of the General Assembly addresses the 85th plenary meeting of General Assembly; UN Photo/ Eskinder Debebe

Bangladeshi Foreign Minister Khalilur Rahman was elected President of the UN General Assembly's 81st session on Tuesday after defeating Andreas Kakouris of Cyprus in a closely contested vote, positioning himself to steer the world body through a pivotal year marked by intensifying global

crises, UN reform efforts and major leadership transitions. In the secret ballot, Mr. Rahman secured 99 votes to Mr. Kakouris's 91. A total of 190 ballots were cast, with no invalid votes or abstentions.

The presidency rotates among the

UN's five regional groups, and the 81st session falls to the Asia-Pacific group. Mr. Rahman will serve a one-year term starting on 8 September. His presidency will coincide with one of the most consequential processes on the UN calendar: the selection of Secretary-General António Guterres's successor, whose term ends on 31 December 2026.

Mr. Rahman brings more than four decades of diplomatic and multilateral experience to the role. Bangladesh's Foreign Minister since February, he previously served as National Security Adviser and High Representative on the Rohingya Issue. A career diplomat, he joined Bangladesh's foreign service in 1979. He also held senior UN positions in New York and Geneva.

Source: *UN Affairs*, 2nd June, Online



GOVERNMENT EYES US\$51 BILLION RESERVES IN FY2026–27

The government has projected that gross foreign exchange reserves could reach US\$51.4 billion by the end of FY2026–27. The target is based on expectations of continued remittance growth, exchange-rate stability, and financial support from international development partners.

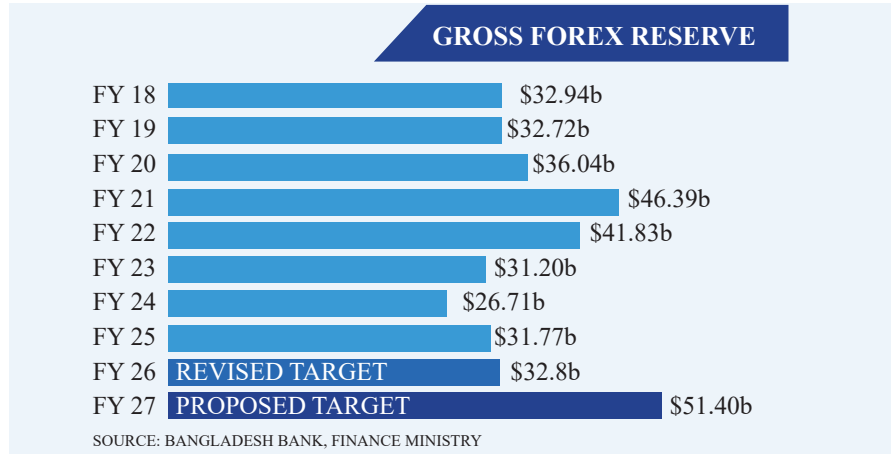
Gross reserves are reserve assets, which consist of gold, cash dollar, bonds, and treasury bills, reserve position in the IMF, special drawing rights holdings -- which is a form of international money created by the IMF and defined as a weighted average of various convertible currencies.

The Bangladesh Bank's gross reserves computation factors in other components such as the Export Development Fund, sovereign guarantees for flag carrier Biman Bangladesh Airlines, the below-investment-grade securities. Subsequently, the number ends up being markedly higher.

Even with that methodology, crossing the \$51 billion-mark would be a tall order

given the current economic situation. Economists have stressed the importance

foreign currency reserves or encouraging investment and job creation. If it is the



of balancing reserve accumulation with investment growth and employment generation. While stronger reserves improve macroeconomic stability, sustainable economic expansion will require continued investment and productive economic activity.

The key issue lies in whether the government priorities propping up

latter, imports will ramp up, and it would be difficult to top up reserves.

If the finance ministry projections assume investment will rebound, imports will rise and capital machinery imports will increase, then achieving such a sharp rise in reserves will be difficult.

Source: *The Daily Star*, 31st May, 2026

NEVIAN STARTS EXPORTING MEDICINES TO CANADA

Nevian Lifescience PLC has commenced exports of pharmaceutical products to Canada under a contract manufacturing arrangement with Switzerland-based Sandoz AG. The development represents a major milestone for Bangladesh's pharmaceutical industry and demonstrates the country's capacity to meet stringent international quality requirements.

Industry observers believe the initiative will create new opportunities for expanding pharmaceutical exports to highly regulated markets. The partnership also highlights the growing competitiveness of Bangladesh's pharmaceutical manufacturing sector and its potential to strengthen export diversification.

Source: *ProthomAlo English Desk*, 14th May, 2026



Photo: To mark the occasion, an event held on 13 May 2026 at Nevian's manufacturing plant in Tongi, attended by senior government officials, representatives from regulatory authorities, and local public representatives' source - *eprothomalo*

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CANADA EYES STRONGER NUCLEAR SUPPLY CHAIN TO SUPPORT SMR EXPANSION

Canada is moving to strengthen its domestic nuclear supply chain as it advances the development of Small Modular Reactors (SMRs), with the Darlington New Nuclear Project in Ontario at the forefront. While Canada is one of the world's leading uranium producers, its next-generation BWRX-300 reactors will require enriched uranium—a capability the country currently lacks and must source from

allies including the United States, France and the United Kingdom.

Industry experts argue that developing domestic uranium enrichment capacity would enhance Canada's energy security, reduce dependence on foreign suppliers and reinforce its leadership in the global nuclear sector. The issue has gained greater urgency as countries seek more resilient supply chains amid growing geopolitical uncertainties.

The Darlington project, expected to be the first grid-scale SMR in the G7, is also viewed as a catalyst for expanding Canada's nuclear manufacturing base, creating skilled jobs and positioning Canadian companies to capitalize on the growing international demand for SMR technology.

Source: CBC News, Canada built its nuclear industry to avoid foreign fuel. Its new reactors will depend on it, August 2, 2026.

CANADIAN ECONOMY EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS WITH STRONG SECOND-QUARTER GROWTH

Canada's economy delivered a stronger-than-expected performance in the second quarter of 2026, signaling resilience despite ongoing global trade uncertainties. According to data released by Statistics Canada on 31 July 2026, the country's real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew 0.3% in May, following a 0.1% increase in April. Statistics Canada also provided a preliminary estimate indicating that the economy expanded at an annualized rate of 3.4% in the second quarter (April–June)—well above economists' expectations of 2.5%.

The stronger growth was driven by increased activity in manufacturing, oil and gas extraction, mining, transportation, and consumer spending, reflecting solid domestic demand and improved industrial output. While exports continued to face headwinds from international trade tensions and tariff uncertainties, robust performance in resource-based industries and household consumption helped offset weaker external demand.

Economists noted that the better-than-expected economic data could strengthen investor confidence and

support future business investment. However, they also cautioned that ongoing trade policy uncertainty, particularly in North America, remains a risk to Canada's growth outlook during the second half of the year.

The stronger economic performance is expected to enhance Canada's investment climate, encourage capital expenditure, and reinforce the country's reputation as a stable destination for international trade and investment.

Source: Reuters, based on Statistics Canada data, 31st July 2026

CANADA AMONG THE WORLD'S WEALTHIEST NATIONS, RANKS 13TH GLOBALLY

Canada continues to demonstrate strong household wealth, supported by resilient financial markets and long-term asset growth.

“Canada remains among the world's wealthiest countries, ranking 13th globally in average wealth per adult in the UBS Global Wealth Report 2026.”

According to the UBS Global Wealth Report 2026, Canada ranks **13th worldwide in average wealth per adult**, with an estimated **US\$399,886** (approximately **C\$567,000**) per adult. **Switzerland** retained the top position, followed by the **United States**. The report also found that global personal wealth increased by **10.8% in 2025**, driven by strong equity markets and rising real estate values. Despite slipping from previous years, Canada's ranking reflects its continued economic resilience, robust household asset base, and position among the world's leading high-income economies.



Photo: Toronto's financial district symbolizes Canada's resilient economy, which continues to place the country among the world's wealthiest nations.

Sources: CTV News – “Canada ranks 13th on average global wealth list, Switzerland comes in first”, July 2, 2026. National Post – “Canada is 13th wealthiest nation in the world, according to annual global wealth rankings”, July 5, 2026.



CANADA STRENGTHENS SUPPORT FOR SME DECARBONIZATION AND GREEN COMPETITIVENESS

Canada continues to strengthen its commitment to building a low-carbon economy by expanding support for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in their transition toward sustainable business practices. According to a recent OECD country note on SME decarbonisation policies, SMEs account for a significant share of Canada's business-related greenhouse gas emissions, making their participation essential to achieving the country's climate targets.

The report highlights a comprehensive policy framework that combines clean technology investment incentives, innovation funding, awareness programs, and practical business support. Through initiatives such as the Clean Growth Hub, Net-Zero Challenge for SMEs, green investment tax credits, and dedicated clean technology funding,

Canadian SMEs are being encouraged to adopt energy-efficient technologies, measure carbon emissions, and improve environmental performance.

The study also notes that businesses taking climate action are generally more innovative, more export-oriented, and better positioned to compete in international markets. At the same time, many SMEs continue to face challenges, including limited financial resources, competing business priorities, and a lack of technical expertise for measuring and reducing emissions.

Canada's evolving sustainability framework increasingly recognizes that environmental responsibility and business competitiveness go hand in hand. New guidance on sustainability reporting, carbon accounting tools, green skills development, and supply

chain sustainability is helping SMEs prepare for growing ESG expectations from customers, investors, and global buyers.

For Bangladesh and Canadian businesses seeking stronger commercial partnerships, Canada's experience demonstrates how climate policy can support innovation, improve productivity, and create new opportunities in international trade. As sustainability becomes an integral part of global value chains, collaboration on green technologies, clean manufacturing, and sustainable business practices will play an increasingly important role in strengthening bilateral economic relations.

Source: OECD, June 4, 2026 (Extract from the link: https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/benchmarking-sme-decarbonisation-policies-country-notes_d5a4f352-en/canada_e340a44-en.html)

CANADA STRENGTHENS LNG EXPORT STRATEGY TO SUPPORT GLOBAL ENERGY SECURITY

Canada is positioning itself as an increasingly important player in the global energy market by expanding its liquefied natural gas (LNG) exports to Asia—a strategy that could also contribute to strengthening Europe's long-term energy security.

According to François Poirier, President and Chief Executive Officer of TC Energy, directing Canadian LNG supplies to Asian markets can help rebalance global energy flows amid ongoing geopolitical uncertainties, particularly disruptions stemming from tensions in the Middle East. As Asian demand is increasingly met through Canadian exports, additional LNG supplies from other producers may become available for European markets, helping stabilize global supply chains.

Canada's west coast offers a significant logistical advantage for LNG exports. Shipping cargoes from British Columbia to key Asian markets takes approximately eight days, making Canadian LNG highly competitive by avoiding many of the congested international maritime

routes used by other exporters.

Industry experts also note the growing importance of LNG "swap" arrangements, whereby cargoes are exchanged through commercial agreements rather than physically delivered to their original destinations. This flexible trading mechanism enables suppliers to respond more efficiently to regional demand fluctuations while enhancing global energy resilience.

Canada has already commenced LNG exports from British Columbia, with additional export infrastructure under development. Among the most significant proposed projects is the Ksi Lisims LNG terminal, which is expected to substantially increase Canada's export capacity in the coming years. Major international energy companies, including Shell and TotalEnergies, have already secured long-term agreements to purchase Canadian LNG, reflecting strong global confidence in Canada's emerging role as a reliable energy supplier.

A Growing Opportunity for Canada and the Indo-Pacific

Canada's expanding LNG sector aligns closely with its broader Indo-Pacific Strategy, which seeks to deepen economic engagement across Asia while enhancing global energy security. As demand for cleaner transition fuels continues to grow, Canada's abundant natural gas resources, stable regulatory environment, and strategic Pacific access position the country as a dependable long-term supplier.

For Bangladesh and other Indo-Pacific economies, Canada's growing LNG capacity presents opportunities for future energy cooperation, investment partnerships, and enhanced commercial engagement. As bilateral trade between Canada and Bangladesh continues to expand, developments in Canada's energy sector may create new avenues for dialogue and collaboration in support of regional energy security and sustainable economic growth.

Source: Caliber.az (online), 21 April, 2026.



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HIGH COMMISSIONER OF CANADA INAUGURATES NEW OFFICE PREMISES OF CANCHAM BANGLADESH



Photo: H.E. Ajit Singh, High Commissioner of Canada to Bangladesh (second from left), Senior Trade Commissioner of HCC (Second from right), CanCham Bangladesh President (center) and Board Of Directors in Ribbon Cutting Ceremony of CanCham Bangladesh New Office Premises.



CanCham Bangladesh marked an important institutional milestone with the inauguration of its new office premises in Dhaka on 5 May 2026. The ceremony was officiated by H.E. Ajit Singh, High Commissioner of Canada to Bangladesh, in the presence

of members of the Board of Directors, representatives of the High Commission of Canada, and distinguished guests.

The new office reflects the Chamber's continued growth and its commitment to strengthening trade and investment relations between Bangladesh and

Canada. The facility is expected to serve as a hub for networking, business dialogue, member services, and initiatives that promote closer cooperation among businesses, investors, policymakers, and stakeholders from both countries



CANCHAM BANGLADESH HOSTS IFTAR MAHFIL 2026

CanCham Bangladesh organized its annual Iftar Mahfil on 15 March 2026 at the Renaissance Dhaka Gulshan Hotel. The event brought together Board of Directors, members, business leaders, professionals, and distinguished guests to celebrate the spirit of Ramadan while strengthening professional relationships and community engagement.

H.E. Ajit Singh, High Commissioner of Canada to Bangladesh and Debra Boyce, Senior Trade Commissioner, High Commission of Canada attended the event.



Photo: H.E. Ajit Singh, High Commissioner of Canada to Bangladesh delivering his speech



Photo: Group Photo during Iftar Mahfil of CanCham Bangladesh

The gathering provided a valuable platform for discussions on bilateral trade and investment opportunities between Bangladesh and Canada. Participants highlighted the importance of continued collaboration, stronger business networks, and enhanced commercial engagement between the two countries. The event reinforced CanCham Bangladesh's role as a bridge between the Canadian and Bangladeshi business communities.

CANCHAM BANGLADESH JOINS CANADIAN CHAMBERS OF THE INDO-PACIFIC NETWORK

In a significant milestone for regional business cooperation, CanCham Bangladesh formally joined the Canadian Chambers of the Indo-Pacific (CCIP) in June 2026 through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding by President Mohammad Kamal Uddin. CCIP is a voluntary alliance of twenty one Canadian chambers and business organizations operating across the Indo-Pacific region and collectively representing more than one million businesses.

The partnership strengthens CanCham Bangladesh's regional connectivity and creates new opportunities for

collaboration, market intelligence sharing, business advocacy, and trade promotion. By joining the network, CanCham Bangladesh gains access to a broader platform for engaging

with Canadian chambers throughout Asia and the Pacific while supporting Canada's Indo-Pacific Strategy and facilitating new opportunities for its members



Photo: CCIP Logo



CANCHAM BANGLADESH HOLDS ITS 20TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

Canada Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CanCham Bangladesh) successfully held its 20th Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 10 December 2025 at the Rajanigandha Hall of Gulshan Club, Dhaka. The AGM brought together the Board of Directors and esteemed members of the Chamber, reflecting the organization's continued commitment to fostering a vibrant and engaged business community.

The meeting provided an opportunity to review CanCham Bangladesh's activities, achievements, and organizational progress during the past year, while reaffirming its mission of strengthening bilateral trade and investment relations between Bangladesh and Canada. Members actively participated in the proceedings,



Photo: Group Photo of Board of Directors along with Members in CanCham BD AGM

demonstrating their continued confidence in the Chamber's initiatives and future direction.

The successful convening of the 20th AGM underscored CanCham Bangladesh's role as a leading platform for promoting business collaboration,

policy dialogue, and private-sector engagement between the two countries. The Chamber extends its sincere appreciation to all members for their valuable participation, unwavering support, and continued commitment to advancing Canada-Bangladesh economic and commercial cooperation.

BANGLADESH-CANADA OFFICIAL WORKING GROUP, DHAKA TO STRENGTHEN BILATERAL COMMERCIAL RELATIONS

The Ministry of Commerce convened a high-level preparatory meeting on 7 December 2025 to review the recommendations of the Bangladesh-

Khan, the meeting brought together senior officials from the Ministry of Commerce, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the leadership of



Photo: Joint Working Group Preparatory Meeting at Ministry of Commerce, Govt. of Bangladesh

Canada Joint Working Group (JWG) and finalize preparations for the inaugural meeting of the Bangladesh-Canada Official Working Group (OWG). Chaired by Additional Secretary **Md. Abdur Rahim**

CanCham Bangladesh, including its President, Vice President, Director, and Joint Director.

The participants reviewed the progress of the Business-to-Business

(B2B) Joint Working Group established in 2021 and agreed on key initiatives to deepen bilateral commercial engagement. These included updating the JWG framework, organizing stakeholder seminars, promoting government and private-sector trade missions, facilitating Canadian visa services and student mobility, expanding e-commerce collaboration, strengthening agricultural knowledge exchange, and diversifying Bangladesh's export basket. The meeting reaffirmed the shared commitment of Bangladesh and Canada to fostering stronger trade, investment, and long-term economic partnerships through enhanced public-private collaboration.





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01313762196

CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL BANGLADESH: TWO DECADES OF INSPIRING ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Established in 2005, Canadian International School Bangladesh (CISB) proudly holds the distinction of being the **first Canadian school in Bangladesh**. For over **21 years**, CISB has been committed to providing world-class education that nurtures academic excellence, character, leadership, and global citizenship. Our unwavering dedication to quality education has earned the trust of families seeking an internationally recognized learning experience for their children.



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At CISB, we offer an **internationally recognized curriculum** that equips students with the knowledge, skills, and values needed to thrive in an increasingly interconnected world. Our curriculum emphasizes inquiry, critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and innovation while maintaining high academic standards. Recognized and accepted by universities and institutions around the world, it enables our graduates to pursue higher education with confidence and compete successfully on the global stage.

Over the years, our graduates have secured admission to renowned universities across **Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia**, and other leading study destinations. Many of our students have also been awarded



Cheers to our amazing graduates!



A proud moment: Receiving the diploma

prestigious academic scholarships in recognition of their outstanding achievements, reflecting the quality of education, guidance, and mentorship they receive throughout their academic journey at CISB.

Our commitment to excellence is further reflected in the prestigious honours earned by our students. The **Queen Elizabeth II Medal** is awarded annually to one Grade 12 student who has fulfilled the requirements for the Nova Scotia High School Diploma while demonstrating superior academic achievement throughout Grades 10, 11, and 12, along with an exceptional record of leadership and service within the school and the wider community.



Honouring academic excellence and student leadership, presented by H.E. Mr. Ajit Singh, High Commissioner of Canada

The **Lieutenant Governor's Medal** is presented to two Grade 11 students who exemplify outstanding leadership, community service, and commendable academic performance. These distinguished awards celebrate the values of scholarship, leadership, integrity, and responsible citizenship that are at the heart of a CISB education.

Education at CISB extends far beyond academic success. We believe in the **holistic development** of every learner by fostering intellectual, social, emotional, physical, and creative growth. Students actively participate in leadership initiatives, sports, performing arts, cultural celebrations, STEM activities, community service, and experiential learning opportunities that help build confidence, resilience, empathy, and a strong sense of responsibility. Our goal is to develop well-rounded individuals who are prepared to make meaningful contributions to society.

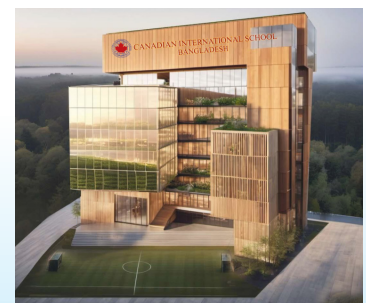


Hands-on STEM and personalized mentorship

Every learner receives personalized attention and one-to-one academic support. Our experienced and dedicated educators employ innovative **21st-century teaching practices**, integrating technology, inquiry-based learning, project-based experiences, collaboration, communication, creativity, and critical thinking into everyday instruction. This personalized learning environment enables each student to realize their full potential while developing the competencies essential for success in higher education and future careers.

As we continue to grow, CISB is excited to embark on a new chapter with the upcoming relocation to a **modern, purpose-built campus**. The new campus will feature state-of-the-art classrooms, advanced science and technology laboratories, innovative learning spaces, creative arts facilities, and enhanced sports amenities, providing students with an inspiring environment that supports excellence in every aspect of learning and development.

Today, Canadian International School Bangladesh stands as a trusted leader in international education, committed to shaping confident, compassionate, and future-ready global citizens. As we proudly celebrate **21 years of educational excellence**, we remain dedicated to inspiring lifelong learners, empowering future leaders, and providing every child with limitless opportunities to succeed in an ever-changing world.



CISB modern new campus

INVESTING IN TOURISM: UNLOCKING BANGLADESH'S NEXT ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY



Tourism has the potential to become one of Bangladesh's most promising engines of economic growth. With its rich cultural heritage, natural beauty, diverse landscapes, and warm hospitality, Bangladesh possesses many of the ingredients needed to develop a globally competitive tourism industry. Yet, compared with its potential, the sector remains significantly underdeveloped.

Recognizing this opportunity, Mana Bay Water Park & Resort was established with a vision to introduce a world-class leisure and hospitality destination to Bangladesh. As a British-invested project, Mana Bay demonstrates how private-sector investment can

contribute to the development of modern tourism infrastructure while creating employment and supporting local economic activity.

The impact of tourism extends far beyond hotels and attractions. A successful destination creates opportunities across hospitality, food and beverage, retail, transportation, events, entertainment, maintenance, agriculture, and local services. By developing integrated tourism destinations, Bangladesh can create a wider economic ecosystem that benefits communities and encourages entrepreneurship.

The future of tourism, however, depends on more than investment alone. Internationally competitive destinations require high standards of safety, environmental responsibility, customer service, technology, and continuous innovation. Developing these capabilities will be essential for Bangladesh to attract more international visitors and encourage greater domestic tourism.

There is also significant scope for stronger collaboration between Bangladesh and Canada in this sector. Canadian investors, tourism professionals, hospitality experts, and

technology providers can contribute through knowledge exchange, skills development, sustainable infrastructure, destination management, and strategic investment partnerships. Such collaboration could help Bangladesh adopt international best practices while creating new opportunities for businesses in both countries.

Tourism should be recognized as an important pillar of Bangladesh's future economic strategy, complementing the country's strong manufacturing and export sectors. Strategic investment in infrastructure, connectivity, destination marketing, workforce development, and public-private partnerships can unlock significant economic potential.

Bangladesh has the opportunity to emerge as one of South Asia's most exciting tourism destinations. With bold investment, international collaboration, and a long-term vision, tourism can generate employment, diversify the economy, strengthen communities, and enhance Bangladesh's global image—creating sustainable value for generations to come.

By: Sasheen Akbani, Deputy Managing Director, ACS Textiles Ltd. and Managing Director, Mana Bay Water Park & Resort

SNOWTEX GROUP

SNOWTEX is a LEED Platinum apparel manufacturing company in Bangladesh, established in 1998, and currently has four factories including three LEED Platinum certified factories.

Facilitating 182 lines, SNOWTEX, with 12,000 machines, around 23,000

human resources, with 30 Acre Land and 18 million standard output hours produces 30 million pieces and has an annual turnover of \$320 million. We produce different types of woven garments like Jackets, Sportswear, Active Wear, Overall, Coverall, Hunting Wear, Safety Wear, etc. We are working with customers from

around the globe exporting goods all over the world including Europe and America.

With all the experiences and achievements, in 2019, S.M. Khaled, founder and Managing Director of SNOWTEX Group, was selected as Chairman of BGMEA, Standing



Snowtex Factory is located at sB-65/3, Lakuriapara, Dhulivita,, Dhamrai, Dhaka-1350, Bangladesh. Email: info@snowtex.org

Committee on IE) for the year 2019-2021 where he put in an effort to develop our country's apparel sector. He has been also performing his duties as a Director of CanCham Bangladesh since 2019.

With the goal of becoming a leading fashion brand, SaRa Lifestyle Ltd., a sister concern of SNOWTEX, started its journey in May 2018. At this moment SaRa serves in domestic markets with

17 physical outlets as well as through E-commerce. SaRa Lifestyle Ltd also opened a multi-vendor marketplace with the objective of providing an exceptional online shopping experience for the fashion and lifestyle needs of men, women, and kids in Bangladesh.

We have achieved many certificates and awards like Green Factory Award, National Environment Award, President's Award for Industrial Development,

National Export Trophy GOLD, Highest Taxpayer Award, and CIP.

Mr. S.M. Khaled spent quite a long-time serving society. The learning from those days guides him to work continuously to satisfy all his customers and to honor all Snowtex family members so that they can enjoy every moment in Snowtex. One of the major goals of SNOWTEX is to help society and to bring prosperity to everyone's life.



BANGLADESH PRIORITIZES 12 EXPORT SECTORS TO EXPAND GLOBAL MARKET ACCESS

In a significant move to strengthen Bangladesh's export competitiveness and attract greater international investment, the government has approved participation in 50 international trade fairs across 27 countries during the 2026–27 fiscal year. The initiative, endorsed by the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB), will prioritize exhibitions showcasing products from 12 high-potential export sectors.

The selected sectors include ready-made garments, leather and leather goods, agro-processing, light engineering,

pharmaceuticals, information and communication technology (ICT), jute and jute products, home textiles, handicrafts, plastics, ceramics, and footwear. Through increased participation in international trade exhibitions, Bangladesh aims to diversify its export basket, explore new markets, and strengthen business-to-business connections with global buyers.

The initiative is expected to create new opportunities for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and emerging entrepreneurs, many of whom face

financial constraints in accessing overseas markets independently. The government also reaffirmed its commitment to improving the country's investment climate by reducing procedural barriers and creating a more business-friendly environment.

As Bangladesh prepares for its post-LDC graduation, export diversification and market expansion remain central to the country's long-term trade strategy and sustainable economic growth.

Source: Ministry of Commerce, Government of Bangladesh (via Export Promotion Bureau Board Meeting), as reported by The Daily Star, 22 July 2026.

TRADITIONAL HAZARI GUR OF MANIKGANJ RECEIVES GI RECOGNITION

The traditional Hazari Gur of Manikganj has officially received Geographical Indication (GI) recognition, becoming the 64th registered GI product of Bangladesh. The recognition acknowledges the product's unique characteristics, traditional production methods, and strong association with the region's environment and heritage.

The GI designation is expected to enhance product branding, support local producers, preserve traditional knowledge, and create new commercial opportunities in domestic and international markets.

Source: The Financial Express, 17th June, 2026.



BANGLADESH BANK ALLOWS EXPORTERS TO DISPLAY PRODUCTS VIA AMAZON AND ALIBABA

Bangladesh Bank has introduced measures enabling exporters to market products through major international e-commerce platforms such as Amazon, Alibaba, and AliExpress. The initiative aims to support digital exports and help small and medium-sized enterprises access global

consumers more effectively.

The new guidelines establish simplified procedures for small-value

exports while maintaining regulatory oversight for payment settlement and export proceeds. The policy is expected to strengthen Bangladesh's integration into global digital trade networks.

Source: The Business Standard, June 16, 2026.



BANGLADESH RANKED FOURTH MOST PEACEFUL COUNTRY IN SOUTH ASIA

Bangladesh has been ranked the fourth most peaceful country in South Asia in the Global Peace Index (GPI) 2026, compiled by the Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP). Globally, Bangladesh placed 114th among 163 countries with a score of 2.226, improving from 123rd position in the previous year's index.

Within South Asia, Bangladesh ranked behind Bhutan, Nepal, and Sri Lanka, while placing ahead of India, Pakistan, and Afghanistan. The GPI assesses countries based on three key indicators: societal safety and security, ongoing conflict, and militarization. The improved ranking reflects progress

in Bangladesh's overall peace environment and reinforces its image as an increasingly stable destination for trade, investment, and business engagement in the region.

Source: The Business Standard, based on the Global Peace Index 2026 by the Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP), 14th June 2026

BANGLADESH MAKES ITS INVESTMENT CLIMATE BETTER WITH NEW MEASURES TO HELP BUSINESSES

Bangladesh is undertaking a series of policy initiatives to create a more conducive environment for business and investment. The government has a plan called the "180-day investment action plan" to make things simpler for businesses. They want to make it easier for people to start and run a business in Bangladesh.

The government is trying to make it faster for businesses to get approved. They also want to make it easier

for different government agencies to work together. The government is trying to get rid of some of the paperwork and bureaucracy that can slow things down.

The government in Bangladesh has also passed a law called the "Invest Bangladesh Bill, 2026". This law will bring together some government agencies that help with investments into one organization. This new organization will make it easier for

people to invest in Bangladesh. It will help the government make policies to attract more investments from other countries.

All of these changes show that Bangladesh is serious about making it easier for people to do business.

Source: Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA); UNCTAD – Bangladesh Investment Reforms Offer Lessons for Developing Economies Facing FDI Climate (28 April 2026); The Daily Star, "BIDA outlines 180-day action plan, for better investment climate."

BANGLADESH INVITES CANADIAN INVESTMENT IN SOLAR POWER GROWTH

Bangladesh is actively encouraging Canadian investment in renewable energy, particularly solar power. During discussions between Commerce Minister Khandaker Abdul Muktedir and Canadian High Commissioner Ajit Singh, the government emphasized its

commitment to expanding renewable energy generation and achieving ambitious solar power targets.

Officials highlighted policy support, investment facilitation, and opportunities for international participation in Bangladesh's

clean-energy transition. Renewable energy, agri-food, and fintech were identified as promising areas for future bilateral cooperation, reflecting growing economic engagement between Bangladesh and Canada.

Source: Textile Today, 20th April, 2026

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