



ISSUE 1, OCTOBER 2021

BANGLADESH RISING



THE SUCCESS
STORIES OF
BANGLADESH

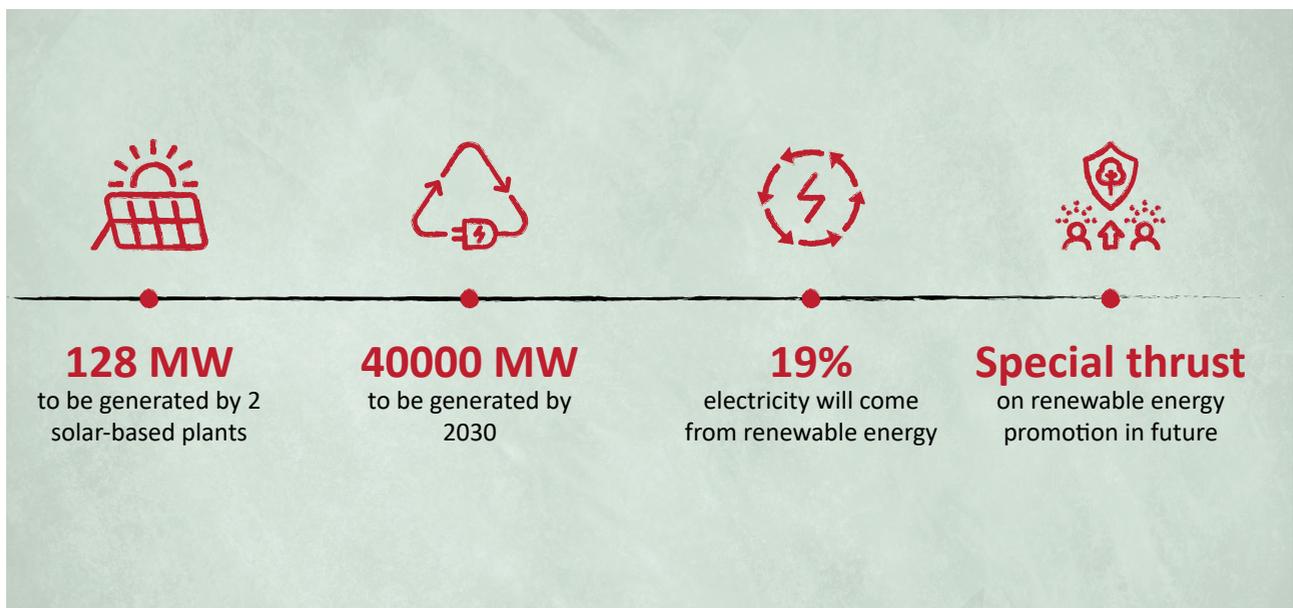




BANGLADESH MOVING TOWARDS GREEN TECHNOLOGY

In a bid to implement Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's commitment to transitioning the power sector of Bangladesh to climate-friendly technologies ahead of COP26, the government has approved of two separate solar-based power plants which will generate 128MW of electricity. A 68MW solar-based plant will be set up in Sirajganj and a 60MW plant in Pabna. The government set the target to generate 40,000MW of electricity by 2030, the annual power growth to be 10-14%. About 19% of the targeted electricity is expected to generate from the renewable energy. State-owned North-

West Power Generation Company expects to implement the Sirajganj power plant in 15 months from the date of issuing the work order. In June 2021, the government announced the scrapping of 10 proposed power projects having a combined generation capacity of 8,451MW of electricity as part of the adaptation policy of new technologies in the sector. There will be a special thrust on renewable energy promotion in future plans for power sector as part of the country's commitment to the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) of which Bangladesh is the current chair.



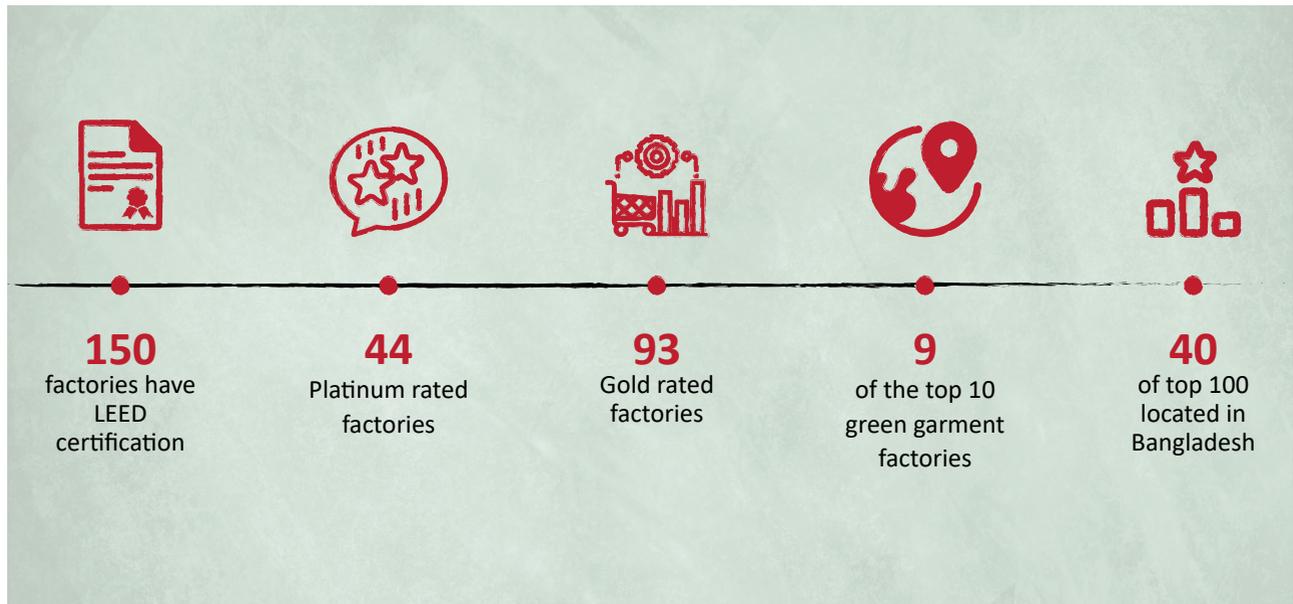




BANGLADESH HAS THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF GREEN GARMENTS FACTORIES IN THE WORLD

The number of green garments factories in Bangladesh became the highest in the world. 150 factories now have the Leadership in Environmental and Energy in Design (LEED) certification given by the United States Green Building Council (USGBC). Of the 150 factories, 44 are rated platinum and 93 are rated gold. 500 more garments factories are

waiting to be certified LEED by the USGBC. Currently, 9 of the top 10 green garment factories and 40 of the top 100 (including other criteria) are located in Bangladesh. This signifies the commitment of the Government of Bangladesh and the business community to jointly work to bring this sector to the world standard.



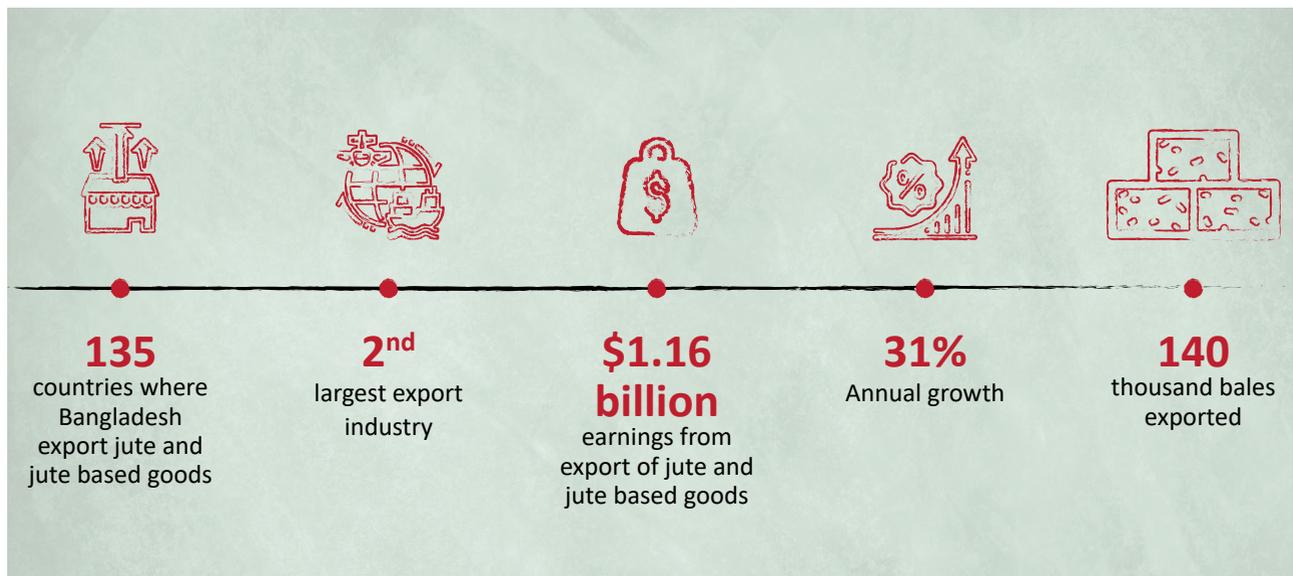




REVIVAL OF THE “GOLDEN FIBER” INDUSTRY

Bangladesh is to revive the jute industry in the days ahead. Once known as the Golden Fiber, jute is getting a renewed attention from the government as its environment-friendliness can become a game-changer in the sector. Bangladesh currently exports 282 jute and jute-based goods to 135 countries. Raw jute is exported to several countries, including India, Pakistan, China, Russia, the Middle East, Thailand, Vietnam, the USA and Brazil. Alongside jute fiber, Bangladesh is presently exporting jute yarn, twine, sacks, bags, man-made filaments and staple fibers. Since 2019, the government has been providing 20% cash incentive to the exporters to facilitate the export of diversified jute products. Currently, the jute industry is marked as the second largest export industry as earnings from the export

of jute and jute-based goods reached \$1.16 billion with 31% annual growth. Jute industry contributes 0.26% to Bangladesh’s GDP. Annual production capacity of the active jute mills in Bangladesh is 780 thousand bales. Bangladesh has domestic demand of about 650 thousand bales of jute, while 140 thousand bales are exported. The adverse effects of synthetic and plastic products on environment have made jute an attractive alternative to the environment-conscious consumers. The biodegradability and environment-friendliness of jute has been increasing its appeal as a wrapping material. Shopping bags made of jute are in high demand in the international market (about 500 billion pieces annually) and the market for other jute-based products is also growing significantly.







BANGLADESH IS EXPANDING THE MELAMINE INDUSTRY

Bangladesh has started to spread the domestic popularity of melamine tableware products beyond her borders. Appropriate for a more casual dining, melamine has the same appeal as china with the added advantage of being lightweight, sturdy, colorful and affordable. The industry is earning around \$100 million annually

from their exports, in addition to meeting 10-15% increase in domestic demand. Melamine products are now exported to the US, Canada, Norway, Sweden, Russia, Finland, Spain, Kazakhstan, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Oman, United Arab Emirates, India, Bhutan, Australia and New Zealand.





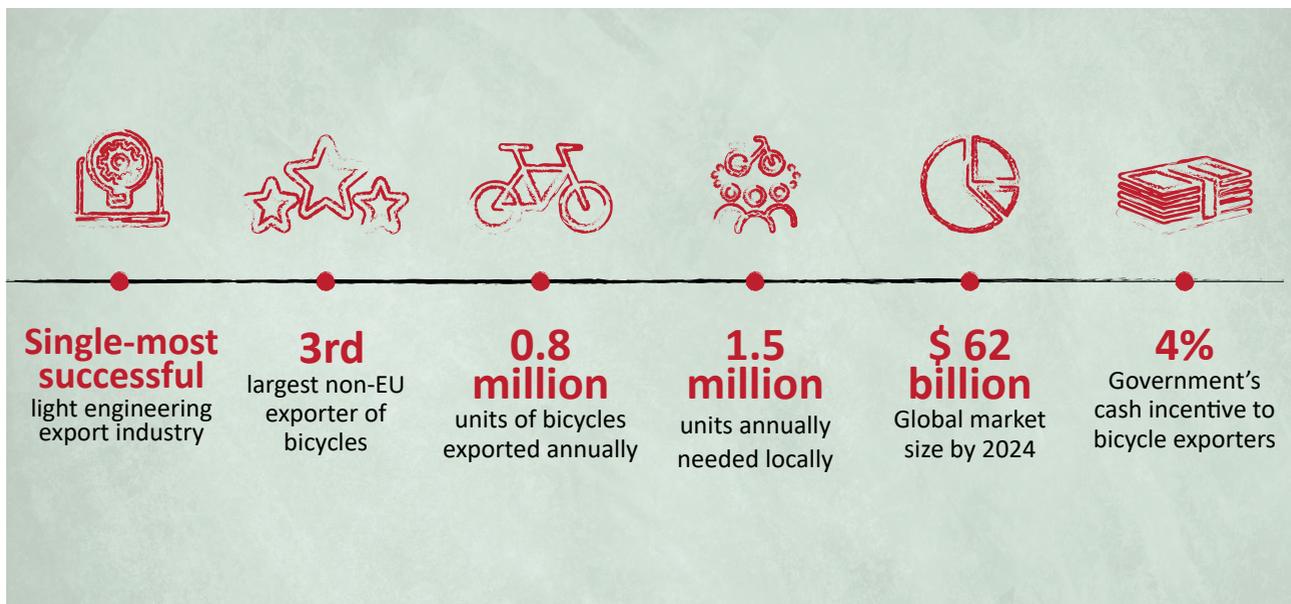


BANGLADESH BECAME THE THIRD-LARGEST NON-EU EXPORTER OF BICYCLE

Bangladesh Became the Third-Largest Non-EU Exporter of Bicycle

Bangladesh is now the third-largest non-EU exporter of bicycle following Taiwan and Cambodia. Its bicycle industry has been growing admirably in the recent years. It has become Bangladesh's single most successful light-engineering export industry. Currently three major manufacturers – Meghna Group, Alita-Bangladesh and Pran-RFL Group – is dominating the industry while more companies are likely to emerge in near future. The COVID19 pandemic could not dampen the surge of the bicycle industry. Bangladesh is currently exporting more than 0.8 million units of bicycles annually and the industry has seen 6% growth in the last year.

The EU represents the single largest potential bicycle market for Bangladesh as the consumers in this bloc buy an estimated 18-million bicycles annually of which 40% are imported. The local market demand for bicycles is estimated at nearly 1.5-million units a year valued at BDT 12 billion with an annual demand growth of 30%. Market research reports estimate that the global market size for bicycles will reach \$62 billion by the year 2024 spurred by people's preference for environment and social distance-friendly two wheelers - a safer mode of commuting instead of using public transport. In a very recent move, the government of Bangladesh has decided to provide 4% cash incentive to bicycle exporters.





Chief Patron	Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen, MP, Foreign Minister
Patron	Md. Shahriar Alam, MP, State Minister for Foreign Affairs
Chief Adviser	Ambassador Masud Bin Momen, Foreign Secretary (Senior Secretary)
Adviser	Ambassador Mashfee Binte Shams, Secretary (East)
Editor	Mohammad Harun Al Rashid, Director General, Public Diplomacy Wing
Associate Editor	Mohammad Rafiqul Alam, Director (Public Diplomacy)
Assistant Editor	Tarique Mahmud Pasha, Assistant Secretary
Acknowledgment	Pranab Kumar Bhattacharjee, Director (Media) and A.N.M. Ashiq Billah, Assistant Secretary
Published by	Public Diplomacy Wing, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dhaka, Bangladesh
Contact	Phone: +880-2-9562952, Fax: +880-2-9562163, email: publicdiplomacy@mofa.gov.bd

Disclaimer: The material has been collected from publicly available sources and compiled for the benefit of the readers.