

Media News Report on “Building Competitive Sectors for Export Diversification: Opportunities and Policy Priorities for Bangladesh”

Monday, Jan 13, 2020

Get policy right to develop non-apparel sectors
Economists tell IFC-PRI event

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Adviser to the Prime Minister Dr Mashiur Rahman (third from right) seen with Ministry of Commerce Secretary Dr Md Jafar Uddin (second from right), IFC Country Manager for Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal Wendy Werner (third from left), Chairman of PRI Dr Zaidi Sattar (extreme right), Executive Director of PRI Dr Ahsan H Mansur (second from left) and

others are seen at the launching ceremony of the report on “Building Competitive Sectors for Export Diversification: Opportunities and Policy Priorities for Bangladesh” at a city hotel on Sunday —Collected

Leather and footwear, plastics and light engineering have been identified as the potential sectors, which can help diversify the country’s export basket.

The sectors will also create greater access to the international markets for local products, according to a new report launched on Sunday.

The report highlighted the need for diversifying Bangladesh’s export basket in order to sustain accelerated economic growth, increase investment opportunities, and create more jobs, particularly for women.

The International Finance Corporation of the World Bank launched the diagnostic report titled “Building Competitive Sectors for Export Diversification: Opportunities and Policy Priorities for Bangladesh” at a programme, jointly organised by the IFC and Policy Research Institute of Bangladesh in Dhaka.

Prime Minister’s economic affairs advisor Dr Mashiur Rahman was present as the chief guest at the launching event, chaired by PRI chairman Dr Zaidi Sattar.

“Bangladesh’s economy is moving forward at a stable pace,” Dr Rahman said.

“The government has launched a concerted effort to diversify its exports and we sincerely hope this pioneering publication will help inform the policy discourse on sustainable export-led growth,” he added.

Dr Rahman, however, recommended reviewing the the government’s cash incentive programme, saying that ‘golpata’ and bricks exporters are receiving high percentage of cash support and they are destroying the Sundarbans and agricultural land respectively.

Commerce secretary Dr Mohammad Jafar Uddin said export is one pathway to leveraging the dynamic potentials of the global economy.

“We strongly believe that trade is a powerful engine of growth, not just for the world economy, but very much so for the developing economy of Bangladesh,” he said.

To sustain the growth trajectory and reduce overdependence on any single item, IFC country manager Wendy Werner said Bangladesh needs to build a strong manufacturing ecosystem and develop new products, while paving the way for large-scale job creation and poverty reduction.

Bangladesh has “serious problem” with export concentration as the bulk of export income comes from the readymade garment sector, said PRI executive director Ahsan H Mansur. He underlined the need for diversifying of both products and markets.

Echoing Mr Mansur, Dr Sattar suggested selecting potential sectors and the development of right policy to increase export earnings of non-apparel products.

He warned that most new products introduced by exporters were not sustained beyond the first year.

He, however, stressed the need for addressing export sustainability on a priority basis as it is a critical challenge for maintaining diversification.

The report identified the lack of environmental and social compliance, poor handling of raw materials, the shortage of skilled workforce, the delay in relocating tanneries, poor access to finance, technological constraints, limited availability of accessories and components, and limited product and markets as the major constraints on the leather sector.

It made short-medium-long term recommendations for policymakers on strategy development to integrate priority sectors with the global value chain.

Speaking at the programme, Leathergoods and Footwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association of Bangladesh president Saiful Islam said only three local leather and leather goods companies have the Leather Working Group (LWG) certification.

The export earnings target of \$5.0billion from leather and leather goods by 2021 might not be possible, he warned.

Currently leather is the second-largest export sector after apparels and the sector's export is \$1.02 billion.

The government should facilitate quick completion of the Central Effluent Treatment Plant of the Savar Tannery Industrial Estate for ensuring better prices of locally-made leather and leather goods.

“We must do something for value addition. Bangladesh has the comparative advantage of having own raw materials in the leather and leather goods sector,” he said.

The country's export earnings grew negatively in the first half of current fiscal year, speakers said, suggesting diversification of both products and markets.

They also stressed the need for equal policy support to non-RMG sector as given to the RMG sector.

PRI research director MA Razzaque suggested that cement, steel and pharmaceutical exports should be boosted for the diversification of the export basket as these sectors have the potential to earn a lot.

Higher demand for some goods in the local markets can also encourage higher investment and higher export, he added.

Some \$600 million worth of plastic goods are exported from Bangladesh in a year mainly as

deemed export items like shipment with garment items as hanger and other goods, he said, adding plastic has good potential both for the local and international markets.

“It does not make any sense if the government deprives the companies, which manufacture both for the domestic and international markets, of bond facility. This is really a challenge for some sectors,” he added.

The IFC publication compares Bangladesh’s export performance to several comparator countries, including Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, China and India, to identify where Bangladesh can improve.

It said economic factors like employment generation, women’s employment, growth of small and medium enterprises, and foreign direct investment are needed in seven potential sectors for export diversification.

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<https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/get-policy-right-to-develop-non-apparel-sectors-1578851212>

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Tannery estate needs quick upgrade for better leather prices

A top exporter says at IFC report launching



Mashiur Rahman, adviser to the prime minister on economic affairs, poses at the launch of a report styled “Building Competitive Sectors for Export Diversification: Opportunities and Policy Priorities for Bangladesh”, published by the IFC, at the Amari Hotel in Dhaka yesterday. Photo: Collected Star Business Report

The government should facilitate quick installation of the central effluent treatment plant

at the Savar Tannery Industrial Estate to ensure better prices for Bangladeshi leather and leather goods, a top exporter said yesterday.

Local leather and leather goods exporters receive nearly 40 percent lower prices than their foreign peers, as they do not have the Leather Working Group (LWG) certification, a vital accreditation needed to receive fair prices from buyers.

Only three local leather and leather goods companies have the certification at the moment

and they are helping the sector grow gradually.

“If all the 155 tanneries, housed at the leather industrial park in Savar, can obtain the certification, they will be able to receive proper prices from international buyers,” said Saiful Islam, president of the Leathergoods and Footwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association of Bangladesh.

He spoke at the launch of a report styled “Building Competitive Sectors for Export Diversification: Opportunities and Policy Priorities for Bangladesh”, published by the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the private sector lending arm of the World Bank Group.

The event took place at the Amari Hotel in Dhaka.

The CETP is not fully functional yet to get the LWG certification. As a result, local leather and leather goods manufacturers have to sell goods to some limited non-compliant Chinese manufacturers at cheaper rates.

“So, the target to export \$5 billion worth of leather and leather goods by 2021 might not be possible,” Islam said.

Currently, the sector is the second largest foreign currency earner after ready-made garment. It fetched \$1.02 billion in exports in the last fiscal year.

“We must do something for value-addition. Bangladesh has comparative advantage as the leather and leather goods sector has its own raw materials,” Islam said.

Bangladesh’s competitors such as Vietnam, Indonesia and Cambodia have the advantages of diversified products, the entrepreneur added.

Islam called for special allocation for product and market diversification and innovation, as the private sector has hardly had any innovation recently because of higher cost of funds. Cement, steel and pharmaceutical exports should be boosted to diversify the export basket because they have the capability to earn a lot if facilitated properly, said MA Razzaque, research director at the Policy Research Institute of Bangladesh (PRI).

Higher demand for some goods in the local market can also draw higher investment and higher export, he said.

For instance, per capita consumption of plastics in Bangladesh is five kg against the Asian average of 36kg. Domestic demand can help expand the market and ultimately boost exports, Razzaque also said.

Some \$600 million worth of plastic goods are exported from Bangladesh every year mainly as dimmed export items like hanger. Plastics has good potential at both home and abroad, he said.

To the researcher, it does not make any sense why the government does not allow bonded warehouse facility to the companies that manufacture products both for local and international markets.

“This is really a challenge for some sectors,” he added.

The government is working to develop particular products in the areas of leather and leather goods, plastic, footwear and light engineering under a special scheme so that the goods can be exported in the near future, Commerce Secretary Mohammad Jafar Uddin said.

As part of an initiative to diversify markets, Bangladesh is trying to grab more market shares in Latin American countries like Brazil, Mexico and Argentina.

Moreover, Bangladesh has targeted the central Asian countries for market diversification, apart from traditional markets, namely the EU, the US and Canada, he said.

“However, Bangladesh will need to diversify skills along with market and product diversification,” he said.

A diversified export portfolio comprising competitive sectors, such as leather and footwear, plastics, and light engineering, will help create greater access to international markets for Bangladeshi products, the report said.

It recommended policymakers develop strategies in order to integrate priority sectors with the global value chain.

“To sustain its growth trajectory and reduce overdependence on any single item, Bangladesh needs to build a strong manufacturing ecosystem and develop new products, while paving the way for large scale job creation and poverty reduction,” said Wendy Werner, country manager of the IFC for Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal.

The IFC publication compared Bangladesh’s export performance with several comparator countries, including Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, China and India, to identify areas for the country to improve.

Economic factors such as employment generation, women’s employment, growth of small and medium enterprises, and foreign direct investment are needed in seven potential sectors for export diversification, it said.

“Bangladesh’s economy is moving forward at a stable pace,” said Mashiur Rahman, adviser to the prime minister on economic affairs.

The government has initiated a concerted effort to diversify exports, he said.

<https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/tannery-estate-needs-quick-upgrade-better-leather-prices-1853362>

Leather, plastic, light engineering identified for export diversification

Staff Correspondent | Published: 23:19, Jan 12,2020



Prime minister’s economic affairs adviser Mashiur Rahman, commerce secretary Mohammad Jafar Uddin, Policy Research Institute chairman Zaidi Sattar, International Finance Corporation senior economist M Masrur Reza, private sector specialist Hosna Ferdous Sumi and country manager for Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal Wendy Werner, among others, are seen holding copies of an IFC report launched at an event at

Hotel Amari in the capital on Sunday. — New Age photo

The International Finance Corporation has identified three sectors — leather and footwear, plastics, and light engineering — as highly potential areas for export diversification beyond the readymade garments.

The identification considered not only the contribution to increasing export income but also the potential to meet the economic goals such as creating employment opportunities for the large number of young entering the job market every year, said an IFC report released on Sunday.

The report ‘Building Competitive Sectors for Export Diversification: Opportunities and Policy Priorities for Bangladesh’ was launched at an event organised by the Policy Research Institute in Hotel Amari in the capital.

It said that a diversified export portfolio comprising competitive sectors, such as leather and footwear, plastics, and light engineering, would help create greater access to international markets for Bangladeshi products.

The report made recommendations for policymakers on strategy development to integrate priority sectors with the global value chain.

IFC senior economist M Masrur Reza and IFC private sector specialist Hosna Ferdous Sumi presented the report at the event.

Despite having significant contribution to the country’s economy, lack of environmental and social compliances is the major constraints to the leather sector growth, the report said. It also identified poor handling of raw materials and lack of skilled workforce as the other challenges for the sector.

According to the report, compliance and availability of and access to finance and limited market access are the major challenges for the plastics sector.

For the light engineering sector, the IFC identified availability of raw materials, utility supply and technology and process sophistication as major constraints.

Speaking on the occasion as chief guest, prime minister’s economic affairs adviser Mashiur Rahman said Bangladesh’s economy was moving forward at a stable pace.

‘The government has launched a concerted effort to diversify its exports and we sincerely hope this pioneering publication will help inform the policy discourse on sustainable export-led growth,’ he said.

Commerce secretary Mohammad Jafar Uddin said exporting was one pathway to leveraging the dynamic potentials of the global economy.

‘We strongly believe that trade is a powerful engine of growth, not just for the world economy, but very much so for the developing economy of Bangladesh,’ he said.

PRI chairman Zaidi Sattar cautioned that most new products introduced by exporters did not sustain beyond the first year.

He stressed the need for addressing export sustainability on priority basis as it was a critical challenge for maintaining diversification.

Bangladesh has a serious problem with export concentration as the majority of the export earnings come from the readymade garment sector, said PRI executive director Ahsan H Mansur, suggesting that the country should diversify both products and markets.

Leathergoods and Footwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association of Bangladesh president Saiful Islam said only three local leather and leather goods companies had the Leather Working Group (LWG) certification.

So the export earnings target of \$5.0 billion from leather and leather goods by 2021 might not be possible, he said.

The government should facilitate quick completion of the Central Effluent Treatment Plant of the Savar Tannery Industrial Estate for ensuring better prices for locally made leather and leather goods, he added.

<https://www.newagebd.net/article/96396/leather-plastic-light-engineering-identified-for-export-diversification>

Business

IFC identifies leather, plastic, light engineering for export diversification

Ahmed Shawki

Media News Report on “Building Competitive Sectors for Export Diversification: Opportunities and Policy Priorities for Bangladesh”

- Published at 11:02 pm January 12th, 2020



Guests hold copies of a report on export diversification at its launch at a Dhaka city hotel on Sunday, January 12, 2020 Courtesy

The IFC and the Policy Research Institute jointly organized the event. The International Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group, has identified leather and footwear, plastics, and light engineering sectors as potential areas for diversifying the country’s export basket, which is currently highly dependent on apparel sector.

The IFC suggestion came at the launching of a report “Building Competitive Sectors for Export Diversification: Opportunities and Policy Priorities for Bangladesh” at a Dhaka city hotel on Sunday.

The IFC and the Policy Research Institute jointly organized the event.

IFC senior economist M Masrur Reza and IFC private sector specialist Hosna Ferdous Sumi presented the report in which they stressed building supply-side capacity of the industries to gain competitive advantage in export.

The report showed that leather and footwear, plastics, and light engineering would help create greater access to international markets for Bangladeshi products. It said that 84% of the country’s export earning was solely coming from the RGM sector.

The country’s export earnings in the first five months of the 2019-20 fiscal year stood at \$15.77 billion, which was 12.59% less than the target and 7.6% lower year-on-year.

“To sustain its growth trajectory and reduce over dependence on any single item, Bangladesh needs to build a strong manufacturing ecosystem and develop new products, while paving the way for large scale job creation and poverty reduction,” said Wendy Werner, IFC Country Manager for Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal.

Leather Goods and Footwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association of Bangladesh (LFMEAB) President Md Saiful Islam said the country was currently using only 20% of its capacity of leather goods manufacturing and export.

“If we can use our full capacity, the country will earn five billion dollar a year from this industry. But we need better policy support from the government. The cost of fund is very high and holding back business from growth,” he said.

Bangladesh Plastic Goods Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BPGMEA) President Md Jasim Uddin mentioned that the per capita plastic consumption of the country was only 5 kg where in developed market this rate was 130 kg per year.

“So there is a huge domestic market. If the government provides proper policy support, we can go for plastic export with new products. Currently the plastic export is also based on RMG industry,” he said.

He said that although there was a 10% incentive on the plastic industry, most of the manufactures were failing to avail the facility because of bureaucratic complexities.

“Bangladesh’s economy is moving forward at a stable pace. The government has launched a concerted effort to diversify its exports and we sincerely hope this pioneering publication will help inform the policy discourse on sustainable export-led growth,” said Dr Mashiur Rahman, adviser to the prime minister on economic affairs and chief guest at the publication launching.

Special guest Mohammad Jafar Uddin, secretary, Ministry of Commerce, said: “Exporting is one pathway to leveraging the dynamic potentials of the global economy. We strongly believe that trade is a powerful engine of growth, not just for the world economy, but very much for a developing economy like Bangladesh.”

PRI Chairman Zaidi Sattar sounded caution that most new products introduced by exporters did not sustain beyond the first year and stressed the need to address export sustainability on a priority basis as it was a critical challenge for maintaining diversification.

“In recent times, the exchange of currency also become an issue of concern which needs more attention while promoting export,” he added.

<https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/2020/01/12/ifc-identifies-leather-plastic-light-engineering-for-export-diversification>

Bangladesh needs to diversify export basket: IFC

News Report Bangladesh needs to diversify its export basket to boost economic growth. The

International Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group, has urged the government to take necessary steps in this connection. IFC launched a diagnostic report, which stressed the need for diversifying Bangladesh’s export basket in order to sustain accelerated economic growth, increase investment opportunities, and create more jobs, particularly for women. Bangladesh’s GDP has enjoyed an annual growth rate of 7.3 to 7.9 percent in the past two years (2018-19), with over two million new entrants joining the labor force every year. However, the country’s export earnings in the first five months of the current fiscal year (2019-20) stood at \$15.77b, which was 12.59pc less than the target and 7.6 percent lower year-on-year, said an IFC press release. The report “Building Competitive Sectors for Export Diversification: Opportunities and Policy Priorities for Bangladesh”, launched in the capital reveals that a diversified export portfolio comprising competitive sectors, such as leather and footwear, plastics, and light engineering, will help create greater access to international markets for Bangladeshi products. It provides recommendations for policymakers on strategy development to integrate priority sectors with the global value chain. Speaking on the occasion as the chief guest, PM’s Economic Affairs Adviser Dr Mashiur Rahman said Bangladesh’s economy is moving forward at a stable pace. “The government has launched a concerted effort to diversify its exports and we sincerely hope this pioneering publication will help inform the policy discourse on sustainable export-led growth,” he added. Commerce Secretary Dr. Mohammad Jafar Uddin spoke on the occasion as special guest. He said, “Exporting is one pathway to leveraging the dynamic potentials of the global economy. We strongly believe that trade is a powerful engine of growth, not just for the world economy, but very much so for the developing economy of Bangladesh.” “To sustain its growth trajectory and reduce overdependence on any single item, Bangladesh needs to build a strong manufacturing ecosystem and develop new products, while paving the way for large scale job creation and poverty reduction,” said Wendy Werner, IFC Country Manager for Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal. The IFC publication compares Bangladesh’s export performance to several comparator countries, including Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, China and India, to identify where Bangladesh can improve. It considers economic factors like employment generation, women’s employment, growth of small and medium enterprises, and foreign direct investment needed in seven potential sectors for export diversification. This publication on export diversification, co-authored by Hosna Ferdous Sumi, IFC Private Sector Specialist, and Dr. Masrur Reaz, IFC Senior Economist, has been supported by Bangladesh Investment Climate Fund II, an IFC advisory project implemented in partnership with the UK Department for International Development. At the launching event organized in

cooperation with Policy Research Institute (PRI), Dr. Zaidi Sattar, Chairman of PRI, cautioned that most new products introduced by exporters do not sustain beyond the first year. He stressed the need for addressing export sustainability on priority basis as it is a critical challenge for maintaining diversification.

http://www.newstoday.com.bd/index.php?option=details&news_id=2555228&date=2020-01-13

Leather, plastics and light engineering can diversify exports

The IFC has identified three sectors for export diversifications in Bangladesh

The International Finance Corporation (IFC) has identified three sectors – leather, plastics and light engineering – for export diversification beyond readymade garments (RMG).

IFC – a member of the World Bank Group – said the sectors have the potential to create greater access to international markets for Bangladeshi products.

The global lender made the observations in a report called “Building Competitive Sectors for Export Diversification: Opportunities and Policy Priorities for Bangladesh,” which was launched on Sunday at hotel Amari in the capital.

The report on export diversification was co-authored by Hosna Ferdous Sumi, IFC private sector specialist, and Dr Masrur Reaz, IFC senior economist.

The IFC report stressed the need for Bangladesh to diversify its export baskets in order to sustain accelerated economic growth, increase investment opportunities, and create more jobs – particularly for women.

The International Finance Corporation also gave recommendations for policymakers on strategy development to integrate priority sectors with the global value chain.

Taking to The Business Standard on the side-lines of the event, Sumi and Reaz said they had wanted to identify some potential sectors in Bangladesh, ones capable of developing a diversified export portfolio.

“Initially, we started with 15 potential sectors, which we downsized to 12 sectors; then we prioritised seven sectors, and finally selected three sectors, after ranking them,” they added. “We are not saying that just these three sectors have high potential, but that seven sectors have the same capabilities,” said Hosna Ferdous Sumi.

“We selected these three sectors based on specific methodology,” added M Masrur Reaz.

“It is a very tough job to develop a single sector as the earner of above \$10billion. We have developed only the RMG sector over the last 40 years, but we are hopeful about these three

sectors,” said Senior Economist M Reaz.

“It is a very easy job to reform policies aiming at diversifying export baskets. It does not require an extra financial cost,” he added.

M Reaz said the World Bank has been closely working with the government to diversify the country’s exports.

“To sustain its growth trajectory and reduce over-dependence on a single item, Bangladesh needs to build a strong manufacturing ecosystem and develop new products, while paving the way for large scale job creation and poverty reduction,” said Wendy Werner, IFC Country Manager for Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal.

The IFC publication compared Bangladesh’s exports performance to several competitor countries – including Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, China and India – to identify where Bangladesh can improve.

It considered economic factors – like employment generation, women’s employment, growth of small and medium enterprises, and foreign direct investment needed – in seven potential sectors for exports diversification.

“Bangladesh’s economy is moving forward at a stable pace. The government has launched a concerted effort to diversify its exports and we sincerely hope this pioneering publication will help inform the policy discourse on sustainable export-led growth,” said Dr Mashiur Rahman, economic affairs adviser to the prime minister.

He said institutional capacity is a major challenge for diversifying Bangladesh’s exports.

Expressing his concern over a multi-slab tax on exports, he said, “Why would tax rates be different on different exports when the government wants to diversify exports?”

Commerce Secretary Dr Mohammad Jafar Uddin said, “Exporting is one pathway to leveraging the dynamic potentials of the global economy. We strongly believe that trade is a powerful engine of growth, not just for the world economy, but also very much so for the developing economy of Bangladesh.”

“We, the Ministry of Commerce, have a project with the World Bank Group named EC4J aiming to diversify the export baskets. We have also focused on diversifying export destinations,” he added.

The commerce secretary said the government officials should change them by changing their work style, skills and attitude to fulfil the government’s such targets.

At the launch event – organised in cooperation with the Policy Research Institute – its Chairman Dr Zaidi Sattar cautioned that most new products introduced by exporters are not sustained beyond the first year.

He stressed the need to prioritise export sustainability because it is a critical challenge for maintaining diversification.

Participating in a discussion, former finance minister M Syeduzzaman said ensuring good governance, plus building institutional capacity and making it free of corruption, are very important in Bangladesh – for the diversification and expansion of exports.

Bangladesh Plastic Goods Manufacturers and Exporters Association President Md Jashim Uddin said, “Transferring our knowledge of success from the RMG to other sectors requires the government’s policy support.”

Despite the huge potential of the plastic and leather sectors, they do not receive policy support like for garments, he added.

Leather Goods and Footwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association of Bangladesh President Md Saiful Islam said, “We are facing challenges because we do not have Leather Working Group (LWG) certification for the Savar Leather Industrial Park.”

He expressed his doubt over whether the central effluent treatment plant of the leather industrial park will fulfil about 30 percent of the LWG’s requirements.

Dr PRI Executive Director Ahsan H Mansur delivered the welcome speech at the event.

<https://tbsnews.net/economy/trade/ifc-stresses-export-diversification-sustainable-economic-growth-35825>

IFC advises building competitive sectors to diversify Bangladesh export basket

News Desk, bdnews24.com

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Representational Image: A stall of footwear and other leather goods at BLLISS, a Leathertech fair, at the International Convention City Bashundhara. Photo: Asif Mahmud Ove

The International Finance Corporation of the World Bank Group has advised Bangladesh to build competitive sectors for export diversification.

Doing so will help the country sustain accelerated economic growth, increase investment opportunities, and create more jobs, particularly for women, IFC said in a report released in Dhaka on Sunday.

The report, “Building Competitive Sectors for Export Diversification: Opportunities and Policy Priorities for Bangladesh”, reveals that a diversified export portfolio comprising competitive sectors, such as leather and footwear, plastics, and light engineering, will help create greater access to international markets for Bangladeshi products.

It provides recommendations for policymakers on strategy development to integrate priority sectors with the global value chain.

“To sustain its growth trajectory and reduce overdependence on any single item, Bangladesh needs to build a strong manufacturing ecosystem and develop new products, while paving the way for large scale job creation and poverty reduction,” IFC quoted its Country Manager Wendy Werner as saying in a statement.

The IFC publication compares Bangladesh’s export performance to several comparator countries, including Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, China and India, to identify where Bangladesh can improve.

It considers economic factors like employment generation, women’s employment, growth of small and medium enterprises, and foreign direct investment needed in seven potential sectors for export diversification.

“Bangladesh’s economy is moving forward at a stable pace. The government has launched a concerted effort to diversify its exports and we sincerely hope this pioneering publication will help inform the policy discourse on sustainable export-led growth,” the statement quoted the Prime Minister’s Economic Affairs Adviser Mashiur Rahman as saying.

Commerce Secretary Mohammad Jafar Uddin was also present.

The report, co-authored by IFC Private Sector Specialist Hosna Ferdous Sumi and Senior Economist Masrur Reaz, has been supported by Bangladesh Investment Climate Fund II, an IFC advisory project implemented in partnership with the UK Department for International Development.

At the launching event organised in cooperation with Policy Research Institute, its Chairman Zaidi Sattar cautioned that most new products introduced by exporters are not sustained beyond the first year.

He stressed the need for addressing export sustainability on priority basis as it is a critical challenge for maintaining diversification.

<https://bdnews24.com/economy/2020/01/13/ifc-advises-building-competitive-sectors-to-diversify-bangladesh-export-nasket>

প্রিন্সিপাল পলিসি অ্যান্ড রিসার্চ ইনস্টিটিউট : পলিসি

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Media News Report on “Building Competitive Sectors for Export Diversification: Opportunities and Policy Priorities for Bangladesh”

The report highlights the need for a comprehensive policy framework to support export diversification. It emphasizes the importance of strengthening the institutional and regulatory environment, improving the quality of infrastructure, and enhancing the competitiveness of the private sector. The report also identifies key policy priorities, including the need to improve the trade facilitation process, reduce the cost of doing business, and attract foreign investment.



The report also discusses the need for a more integrated approach to policy-making, involving all relevant stakeholders. It calls for a more proactive role for the government in creating a conducive environment for export-oriented industries. The report also highlights the need for a more robust legal and judicial system to ensure the rule of law and protect the rights of investors.

The report also identifies key policy priorities, including the need to improve the trade facilitation process, reduce the cost of doing business, and attract foreign investment. It also emphasizes the need to improve the quality of infrastructure, particularly in the areas of roads, ports, and power. The report also calls for a more proactive role for the government in creating a conducive environment for export-oriented industries.

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গতকালের প্রতিবেদনে বলা হয়েছে, প্রতিবেদনে বলা হয়েছে, প্রতিবেদনে বলা হয়েছে

https://bonikbarta.net/home/news_description/217276/%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%AB%E0%A6%A4%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%88%E0%A6%9A%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AF-%E0%A6%86%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%A4%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%A8-%E0%A6%96%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A4-%E0%A6%B6%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A4



বেঙ্গলোর মেটেল অ্যান্ড অ্যানিমেটেড রপ্তানি বহুমুখীকরণ নিয়ে আয়োজিত অনুষ্ঠানে আইএমসিআর প্রতিবেদন হাতে অতিথিরা।

রপ্তানি বহুমুখীকরণে চাই নীতি সহায়তা

■ সমকাল প্রতিবেদক

আন্তর্জাতিক অর্থায়ন ট্রেন্ডসই ও রপ্তানি করতে বাংলাদেশকে রপ্তানি শৃঙ্খল বহুমুখীকরণ করতে হবে। এতে একদিকে এক পণ্যের ওপর নির্ভরতা কমবে, অন্যদিকে যেটি রপ্তানি হয় তাতেও এর সঙ্গে জড়িয়ে কর্মসংস্থান। এ জন্য সরকার আগে সরকারি সরকারের নীতি সহায়তা, বিশেষ করে নতুন কারখানা স্থাপনে শিথিলতায় অর্থায়ন, কর ছাড়, মালস্বত্বের অবশ্যই সহায়তা নিতে হবে।

আইএমসিআর প্রতিবেদন প্রকাশ অনুষ্ঠানে বক্তব্য রাখা

মলে সরকারের মাধ্যমে নীতি সহায়তা পেলে এসে যাবে থেকে রপ্তানি আর বাংলাদেশে বাপক স্থাননা রয়েছে।

অনুষ্ঠানের প্রধান অতিথি প্রধানমন্ত্রীর অর্থমন্ত্রীর উপদেষ্টা ড. হুমায়ূন রহমান বলেন, রপ্তানি হাতে করতে হবে, তার মাধ্যমে পছন্দী ও বিক্রি হওয়ার অপেক্ষায় নিতে বাপক পর্যাপ্তসেবা ইওয়া উচিত। কারণ অনেক ক্ষেত্রে অপ্রয়োজনীয় উদ্দেশ্য রয়েছে। আবার মালস্বত্বের ও সেরা নিতে হবে, যাতে নতুন পণ্য উদ্ভাবন করা যায়।

শিয়ারকাই প্রোগ্রামের আইনি সাহায্য বলেন, একটি পণ্যের ওপর নির্ভর করে এগিয়ে আসবে না। রপ্তানির অবশ্যই খাতকে এগিয়ে নিতে সরকারের নীতিতে পরিবর্তন আনতে হবে। বণিজ্য সচিব ড. জাহর উদ্দীন বলেন, পণ্য বহুমুখীকরণ জরুরি। তবে বহুমুখীকরণের ধান পলটতে হবে।

বেঙ্গলুর মেটেল অ্যান্ড অ্যানিমেটেড রপ্তানি বহুমুখীকরণ নিয়ে আয়োজিত অনুষ্ঠানে প্রধান অতিথি আইএমসিআর প্রতিবেদন হাতে অতিথিরা।

পত্রিকার মেম্বার রপ্তানি বহুমুখীকরণের ওপর এক প্রতিবেদনের প্রকাশনা অনুষ্ঠানে বক্তব্য রাখেন মন্ত্রণালয় সচিব। ইউরোপীয়ান ইউনিয়ন কর্তৃক প্রস্তুতকৃত আইএমসিআর প্রতিবেদন উপস্থাপন করে বলেন, রপ্তানি বহুমুখীকরণের জন্য বাংলাদেশ সরকার নীতি সহায়তা নিতে হবে।

প্রতিবেদনে বলা হয়, বাংলাদেশ থেকে ১৬০০ ধরণের পণ্য বিশ্বের বিভিন্ন বাজারে রপ্তানি হয়। এতে বছরে উনিশ কোটির ৯২.৯ হাজার পণ্য থেকেই মেট্র রপ্তানি হয়েছে ৮০ হাজার। কিন্তু ১০ শতাংশ পণ্য থেকে আসে মাত্র ১০ শতাংশ আয়। কিন্তু এই এক হাজার ০০০ ধরণের ছোট পণ্য রয়েছে, যেসবের শাজার জটিল বস্তু এবং প্রতিদিনের জীবিকা বাজারে বিক্রি করে রাসদা ও চান্দাভাড়া পণ্য, প্রান্তিক পণ্য, মালস্বত্ব পণ্য ও ওপরের বাজার বস্তু হচ্ছে। এসব হাতে বাংলাদেশের সম্ভবতা অনেক বেশির তুলনায় বেশি।

<http://epaper.samakal.com/nogor-edition/2020-01-13/12>