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## Trump says EU not offering 'fair deal' on trade

AFP, Washington

US President Donald Trump said Tuesday that the European Union had yet to offer a "fair deal" on trade, as Washington negotiates tariff agreements with friends and foes alike.

"We're talking but I don't feel that they're offering a fair deal yet," Trump said of the EU, speaking to reporters on board Air Force One before arriving back in the United States from a G7 summit in Canada.

"We're either going to make a good deal or they'll just pay whatever we say they will pay."

Shortly after taking office, Trump upended the global economic order by accusing the United States' trading partners of unfair practices and he announced huge global tariffs.

Trump imposed a blanket 10 percent tariff on most US trading partners and unveiled higher individual rates on dozens of economies, including India and the European Union -- although he swiftly paused the elevated rates.

The pause on those higher duties is due to expire on July 9, though the White House has indicated it could extend the deadline for countries that it believes are negotiating in good faith.

The US president also imposed additional sector-specific levies on cars, steel, and aluminum that have hit many US trading partners hard, including the EU.

World leaders at the Group of Seven summit in Canada on Monday pushed Trump to back away from his punishing trade war, arguing that it posed a risk to global economic stability.



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## RMG exports to non-traditional markets rise

### STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Garment exports to non-traditional markets grew 6.79 percent year-on-year to \$6.04 billion in the July-May period of the outgoing fiscal year, according to data from the Export Promotion Bureau compiled by the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA).

All destinations except the European

Union, the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom are considered non-traditional markets.

Among these markets, exports to India rose by 17.35 percent, Turkey by 31.75 percent, and Japan by 10.32 percent.

However, shipments to Russia, South Korea, the United Arab Emirates, and Malaysia declined during the period.

The European Union remained the largest destination for Bangladesh's readymade garment (RMG) exports, accounting for 49.91 percent of total shipments, or \$18.25 billion.

The United States followed with exports

worth \$7.03 billion, reflecting a 19.23 percent increase. Canada and the UK contributed \$1.20 billion and \$4.04 billion, respectively.

Year-on-year, RMG exports to the EU, US, and Canada rose by 10.46 percent, 15.97 percent, and 14.14 percent, respectively.

The UK registered more modest growth of 3.96 percent.

Within the EU, Germany was the top export destination, with shipments amounting to \$4.58 billion, followed by Spain at \$3.16 billion and France at \$2.00 billion, the data showed.

Meanwhile, the knitwear segment of the garment sector posted robust 10.98 percent growth, while woven garment exports increased by 9.30 percent.

Overall, RMG exports reached \$36.56 billion in the July-May period, up 10.20 percent from the same period a year ago.



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## Bangladesh to export 4,000-tonne mangoes

Bangladesh aims to export 4,000 tonnes of mangoes in the next three months while 600 tonnes of the volume reached 25 countries by now, officials said on Wednesday, reports BSS.

"We are expecting to export 4,000 tonnes of mangoes within next three months. By now we exported 600 tonnes to 25 countries," Agriculture Extension Department's exportable mango production project director Mohammad Arifur Rahman said.

He said the United Kingdom (UK) and particularly England would be the single largest destination of Bangladeshi mangoes while the 600 tonnes were exported in the past 16 days to different destinations.

According to the official per kilogram mango was being exported at prices ranged between US\$5 and US\$5.5 but the freight charge cost most part of the amount which ranged between US\$3 and US-\$4.

Officials concerned said Bangladesh last year exported 1,320.398 tonnes of

mangoes to 21 countries. In line with export volume respectively the countries

officials said Bangladesh had produced 2.7 million tonnes in 2022-23 and 2.45 million



were the United Kingdom, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Italy, Qatar, Singapore, Germany, Bahrain, Sweden, Canada, France, Maldives, Switzerland, Ireland, Hong Kong, Oman, Malta, Greece, Lebanon and the Netherlands.

The statistics suggested about 3,100 tonnes of mangoes were exported in 2022-23 and 1,321 tonnes in 2023-2024.

According to mango producers, Bangladesh this year yielded an estimated 2.7 million tonnes of mangoes while the

tonnes in 2023-24.

"The varieties of exported mangoes generally are Gopalbhog, Himsagor and Lengra," Rahman said. In line with official formalities the exporters need to obtain several certificates and follow specific procedures with key requirements included registration with the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB), Export Registration Certificate (ERC), and a Certificate of Registration as an Exporter of Horticultural Products, especially for exports to the EU.



19 JUN 2025

## Sri Lanka urges BD investors to invest in pharma sector

FE REPORT

Sri Lanka has urged Bangladeshi investors to explore opportunities in its pharmaceutical sector highlighting the country's strategic location, investor-friendly policies, and growing demand for quality healthcare products.

Sri Lankan business leaders and officials made the call at the business plenary session titled 'Sri Lanka & Bangladesh Economic Ties: Building Bridges for Growth' held at the National Chamber's Auditorium in Colombo on Wednesday.

Members of the visiting business delegation of Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry (DCCI) participated in the event organised by the National Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka, says a press release.

The High Commission of Sri Lanka in Bangladesh has extended its facilitating role to DCCI in organising the business visit to Sri Lanka.

Welcoming the DCCI delegation, Anura Warnakulasooriya, President of

the National Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka, said that mutual trust and confidence are essential for expanding trade and investment, and such cooperation between the private sectors of the two countries will help increase bilateral trade.

He also said, "The more delegations we can exchange, the more businesses will happen."

DCCI President Taskeen Ahmed, in his speech, said that despite global economic challenges and geopolitical turmoil in the last few decades, Bangladesh's economic growth has been quite stable and various sectors such as readymade garments, pharmaceuticals, leather products, agro-processing products, electronics and light engineering, and information technology have played an important role in this journey.

He invited Sri Lankan investors to visit Bangladesh and see the state-of-the-art facilities at the economic zones.

Andre Fernando, President of the Sri Lanka-Bangladesh Business Cooperation Council urged

Bangladeshi entrepreneurs to invest and contribute to the development of Sri Lanka's pharmaceutical sector.

Rizwan Rahman, former president of DCCI, said that a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) will help boost trade and investment between the two countries.

He pointed out that there is an ample opportunity for both countries to work together in harnessing the great potential of the blue economy and maritime resources.

To expand bilateral trade, he stressed the importance of removing tariff-related barriers and implementing timely and relevant policy reforms.

Mangala Wijesinghe, Chairman of the Sri Lanka Export Development Board, Renuka M Weerakone, Director General of Sri Lanka's Board of Investment, and Andaleeb Elias, Bangladesh High Commissioner in Sri Lanka, also spoke.

DCCI Senior Vice President Razeem H Chowdhury and Vice President Md. Saleem Sulaiman were also present.

sajibur@gmail.com



## শ্রীলংকার ওষুধ শিল্পে বাংলাদেশী উদ্যোক্তাদের বিনিয়োগের আহ্বান

নিজস্ব প্রতিবেদক ■

শ্রীলংকার ওষুধ শিল্পে বাংলাদেশের উদ্যোক্তাদের বিনিয়োগের আহ্বান জানানো হয়েছে। কলম্বোয় গতকাল ন্যাশনাল চেম্বার অব কমার্স অব শ্রীলংকা আয়োজিত 'অর্থনৈতিক প্রবৃদ্ধি সম্প্রসারণে বাংলাদেশ-শ্রীলংকার বাণিজ্যিক সম্পর্কের উন্নয়ন' শীর্ষক বিজনেস প্লেনারি সেশনে এ আহ্বান জানানো হয়। অনুষ্ঠানে ঢাকা চেম্বার অব কমার্স অ্যান্ড ইন্ডাস্ট্রি (ডিসিসিআই) প্রতিনিধি দল অংশ নেয়।

বৈঠকে ন্যাশনাল চেম্বার অব কমার্স অব শ্রীলংকার সভাপতি অনুরা ওয়ারনাকুলাসুরিয়া বলেন, 'দ্বিপাক্ষীয় বাণিজ্য ও বিনিয়োগ বাড়তে পারস্পরিক আস্থা অত্যন্ত জরুরি। বেসরকারি খাতে এ ধরনের সমন্বয় দুই দেশের অর্থনৈতিক অগ্রদীর্ঘকে এগিয়ে নেবে।'

অনুষ্ঠানে ডিসিসিআই সভাপতি তাসকীন আহমেদ, বিনিয়োগ সম্ভাবনা কাজে লাগাতে ও দ্বিপাক্ষীয় বাণিজ্য বাড়তে ডাবল ট্যাক্সেশন এভায়ডেন্স এগ্রিমেন্ট হালনাগাদ করার প্রস্তাব দেন তিনি।

শ্রীলংকা-বাংলাদেশ বিজনেস কো-অপারেশন কাউন্সিলের সভাপতি আন্দ্রে ফার্নান্দো দেশটির ওষুধ শিল্পের উন্নয়নে বাংলাদেশী বিনিয়োগকারীদের এগিয়ে আসার আহ্বান জানান।

শ্রীলংকা এক্সপোর্ট ভেঙ্কেলপমেন্ট বোর্ডের চেয়ারম্যান মানগালা ওয়াইজেন্সিহি জানান, সুতা, মসলা, পশুখাদ্য, বাদাম ও কৃষিপণ্যে দ্বিপাক্ষীয় বাণিজ্য সম্প্রসারণের সুযোগ রয়েছে।

বোর্ড অব ইনভেস্টমেন্ট শ্রীলংকার রেনুকা এম ওয়াইরাকুনে বলেন, 'দ্বিপাক্ষীয় বাণিজ্য ও বিনিয়োগ বাড়তে একটি মুক্ত বাণিজ্য চুক্তি (এফটিএ) সমন্বয়যোগ্য। শ্রীলংকায় ওষুধ, মেডিকেল যন্ত্রপাতি ও ফ্যাব্রিকস খাতে বিদেশী বিনিয়োগের জন্য বিশেষ অর্থনৈতিক অঞ্চল প্রতিষ্ঠা করা হয়েছে, যেখানে বাংলাদেশী উদ্যোক্তাদের বিনিয়োগের অপার সম্ভাবনা রয়েছে।'

অনুষ্ঠানে বাংলাদেশে নিযুক্ত শ্রীলংকার হাইকমিশনার ধর্মপালা বীরাজোদি ও শ্রীলংকায় নিযুক্ত বাংলাদেশের হাইকমিশনার আদালি বইলিয়াস বক্তব্য দেন।

বৈঠকে ডিসিসিআইয়ের সাবেক সভাপতি রিজওয়ান রাহমান, উর্ধ্বতন সহসভাপতি রাজিব এইচ চৌধুরী এবং সহসভাপতি মো. সালিম সোলায়মানসহ প্রতিনিধি দলের অন্য সদস্যরা উপস্থিত ছিলেন।

