প্রথম আলো

0 9 JAN 2026

30th DITF

DHAKA INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR 2026

ঢাকা আন্তর্জাতিক বাণিজ্য মেলা ২০২৬

ব্যবসা, সংস্কৃতি ও সুযোগের সেতুবন্ধন

এক ছাদের নিচে বাংলাদেশের সেরা পণ্যের সমাহার

আয়োজনে

সাশ্রয়ী মূল্যে

বিভিন্ন পণ্যের সমাহার

৩২৭টি বুথ ও প্যাভিলিয়ন

৩১৬টি দেশি

১১টি বিদেশি

ভেন্যু

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তারিখ

৩-৩১ জানুয়ারি ২০২৬

দর্শনার্থীদের সময়সূচি

সপ্তাহের দিন
সকাল ৯টা - রাত ৯টা

সাপ্তাহিক ছুটি
(শুক্র ও শনিবার)
সকাল ৯টা - রাত ১০টা

আপনার টিকিট বুক করতে অনুগ্রহ করে কিউআর কোডটি স্ক্যান করুন।

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এক্সপোর্ট এনক্লেভ
বাংলাদেশের প্রধান রপ্তানিযোগ্য পণ্যসমূহ প্রদর্শনের জন্য একটি বিশেষায়িত এলাকা

বাংলাদেশ স্কয়ার
ভাষা আন্দোলন, মুক্তিযুদ্ধ এবং জুলাই ২০২৪ আন্দোলনে শহীদ ও আহতদের স্মরণে একটি স্থিরচিত্র প্রদর্শনী

সিনিয়র সিটিজেনস কর্নার
আরামদায়ক বসার ব্যবস্থাসহ মানসম্মত সময় কাটানোর জন্য একটি নিরিবিলি স্থান

মেলায় যাতায়াতে বিআরটিসি শাটল বাস সার্ভিস এবং ডিসকাউন্টে পাঠাও রাইড সুবিধা

শিশু পার্ক
শিশুদের নির্মল ও স্বাস্থ্যকর বিনোদনের জন্য মেলায় থাকবে দুটি শিশু পার্ক

পলিথিনমুক্ত মেলা
ডিআইটিএফ ২০২৬ হবে পলিথিন শপিং ব্যাগমুক্ত মেলা

সাইডলাইন ইভেন্ট
পণ্য ও বাজার বহুমুখীকরণ বিষয়ে ৬টিরও বেশি সেমিনার

ই-টিকেটিং
দ্রুত ও সহজ প্রবেশের জন্য ডিআইটিএফ ২০২৬-এ ই-টিকেটিং ব্যবস্থা ব্যবহার করা হবে

মনোজ্ঞ সাংস্কৃতিক অনুষ্ঠান

পণ্য প্রচার ও বিপণনের জন্য মেলার উন্মুক্ত সাংস্কৃতিক কেন্দ্রে দেশ বরেণ্য শিল্পীদের অংশগ্রহণে সাংস্কৃতিক অনুষ্ঠানের ব্যবস্থা থাকবে।

বণিক বার্তা
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রাষ্ট্রদূতকে বিজিএমইএ

মারকোসুর বাজারে পোশাক রফতানির গেটওয়ে হতে পারে উরুগুয়ে

নিজস্ব প্রতিবেদক ■

দক্ষিণ আমেরিকার প্রভাবশালী বাণিজ্যিক ব্লক মারকোসুর বাজারে বাংলাদেশ থেকে পোশাক রফতানির ক্ষেত্রে উরুগুয়ে 'গেটওয়ে' বা প্রধান প্রবেশদ্বার হতে পারে বলে মনে করে বাংলাদেশ পোশাক প্রস্তুতকারক ও রফতানিকারক সমিতি (বিজিএমইএ)। ঢাকায় নিযুক্ত উরুগুয়ের রাষ্ট্রদূত আলবার্তো গুয়ানি গতকাল বিজিএমইএ পরিদর্শনে এলে এ ব্যাপারে অভিমত প্রকাশ করেন সংগঠনটির নেতারা।

বিজিএমইএর সিনিয়র সহসভাপতি ইনামুল হক খানের নেতৃত্বে এ আলোচনায় অংশ নেন পরিচালক শাহ রাঈদ চৌধুরী, সুমাইয়া ইসলাম ও শেখ হোসেন মোহাম্মদ মোস্তাফিজ। সভায় আরো উপস্থিত ছিলেন বাংলাদেশে উরুগুয়ের অনারারি কনসাল মোস্তফা কামরুস সোবহান।

আলোচনার শুরুতে বিজিএমইএর সিনিয়র সহসভাপতি ইনামুল হক খান বাংলাদেশের পোশাক শিল্পের বিভিন্ন দিক তুলে ধরেন। তিনি বলেন, 'বাংলাদেশ বিশ্বে পোশাক রফতানিতে দ্বিতীয় স্থানে থাকলেও লাতিন আমেরিকার বাজারে সেভাবে প্রবেশ করতে পারেনি। তবে বাংলাদেশ এ সুযোগ কাজে লাগাতে চায়।'

বিজিএমইএ পরিচালক শাহ রাঈদ চৌধুরী বলেন, 'উরুগুয়ে মারকোসুর অঞ্চলে বাংলাদেশের তৈরি পোশাক রফতানির গেটওয়ে বা প্রধান প্রবেশদ্বার হিসেবে কাজ করতে পারে।'

রাষ্ট্রদূত বাংলাদেশ থেকে পোশাক আমদানি বাড়ানোর ব্যাপারে আগ্রহ প্রকাশের পাশাপাশি উরুগুয়ের বিশ্বমানের 'ট্রেসেবিলিটি' যুক্ত উল বাংলাদেশে রফতানির প্রস্তাব দেন।

সভায় উভয় পক্ষ বিশেষভাবে এলডিসি গ্র্যাজুয়েশন-পরবর্তী চ্যালেঞ্জ মোকাবেলায় মারকোসুর ব্লকের সঙ্গে বাংলাদেশের এফটিএ করার প্রয়োজনীয়তা নিয়ে আলোচনা করেন।

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এবার তুরস্কে ওষুধ রপ্তানির দুয়ার খুলল রেনাটার

বাংলাদেশি ওষুধ কোম্পানি

রেনাটার গাজীপুরের রাজেন্দ্রপুরের কারখানাটি টার্কিশ মেডিসিন অ্যান্ড মেডিকেল ডিভাইস এজেন্সির অনুমোদন পেয়েছে।

নিজস্ব প্রতিবেদক, *ঢাকা*

এবার তুরস্কের বাজারে ওষুধ রপ্তানির দুয়ার খুলল দেশের শীর্ষস্থানীয় ওষুধ উৎপাদন ও বাজারজাতকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান রেনাটার। প্রতিষ্ঠানটি জানিয়েছে, রেনাটার গাজীপুরের রাজেন্দ্রপুরের কারখানাটি তুরস্কের ওষুধ খাতের নিয়ন্ত্রক সংস্থা টার্কিশ মেডিসিন অ্যান্ড মেড়িকেল ডিভাইস এজেন্সির অনুমোদন পেয়েছে। এর ফলে রাজেন্দ্রপুর কারখানায় উৎপাদিত ওষুধ তুরস্কে রপ্তানি করতে পারবে রেনাটা।

শেয়ারবাজারে তালিকাভুক্ত কোম্পানি হিসেবে রেনাটা গতকাল বৃহস্পতিবার তুরস্কের ওষুধ খাতের নিয়ন্ত্রক সংস্থার অনুমোদনের এ তথ্য বিনিয়োগকারীদের জানিয়েছে। রেনাটা জানিয়েছে, তুরস্কের বাজারটি তাদের জন্য কৌশলগতভাবে খুবই গুরুত্বপূর্ণ। কারণ, এটি মধ্যপ্রাচ্য ও ইউরোপের সংযোগস্থল। পাশাপাশি তুরস্কের এই অনুমোদন আন্তর্জাতিক বাজারে রেনাটার অবস্থানকে আরও শক্তিশালী করবে, বাড়বে প্রতিষ্ঠানটির রপ্তানি। এরই মধ্যে রেনাটা ইউরোপের বাজারে ওষুধ রপ্তানির জন্য ইউরোপীয় ইউনিয়ন গুড ম্যানুফ্যাকচারিং প্র্যাকটিস বা ইইউ জিএমপি এবং যুক্তরাষ্ট্রের ফুড অ্যান্ড ড্রাগ অ্যাডমিনিস্ট্রেশন বা এফডিএ সনদ পেয়েছে।

রেনাটাসংশ্লিষ্ট সূত্রে জানা গেছে, এরই মধ্যে কোম্পানিটি ইউরোপের বিভিন্ন দেশ, যুক্তরাষ্ট্র, কানাডা, অস্ট্রেলিয়াসহ বিশ্বের বিভিন্ন দেশে ওষুধ রপ্তানি করছে। এর মধ্যে রেনাটার সবচেয়ে বড় রপ্তানি বাজার আয়ারল্যান্ডসহ ইউরোপের কয়েকটি দেশ। সর্বশেষ ২০২৪-২৫ অর্থবছরে রেনাটা ওষুধ রপ্তানি করে আয় করেছে ২১৮ কোটি টাকা। সূত্রটি বলছে, তুরস্কে ওষুধ রপ্তানির অনুমোদন পেলেও দেশটিতে রপ্তানি শুরু করতে এক বছর সময় লাগবে। আর রপ্তানি শুরু হলে তা কোম্পানির সার্বিক আয় ও মুনাফায় ইতিবাচক প্রভাব ফেলবে।

রপ্তানি বাজারের পাশাপাশি দেশের বাজারেও ওষুধ খাতে শক্ত অবস্থানে রয়েছে রেনাটা। গত ২০২৪-২৫ অর্থবছরে কোম্পানিটি সমন্বিতভাবে (সহযোগী প্রতিষ্ঠানসহ) ৪ হাজার ২৮৯ কোটি টাকার ব্যবসা করেছে। রপ্তানি বাজারের জন্য রেনাটার রয়েছে সহযোগী দুটি প্রতিষ্ঠান। একটি রেনাটা ইউকে এবং অন্যটি রেনাটা ফার্মাসিউটিক্যালস আয়ারল্যান্ড। তার আগের, অর্থাৎ ২০২৩-২৪ অর্থবছরে কোম্পানিটি ব্যবসা করেছিল ৩ হাজার ৭৭১ কোটি টাকার। সেই হিসাবে ১ বছরের ব্যবধানে কোম্পানিটির ব্যবসা বেড়েছে ৫১৮ কোটি টাকার বা প্রায় ১৪ শতাংশ। দেশের বাজারের চেয়ে রপ্তানি বাজারেই কোম্পানিটির মুনাফা প্রবৃদ্ধি বেশি ছিল।

জানতে চাইলে কোম্পানি সচিব জোবায়ের আলম *প্রথম আলো*কে বলেন, 'রেনাটার অন্যতম লক্ষ্য দেশের ভেতরে আন্তর্জাতিক মানের ওষুধ তৈরি করা। সেই ওষুধ দেশের বাজারের পাশাপাশি বৈশ্বিক বাজারেও বাজারজাত করা। সেই কাজটিই আমরা ধারাবাহিকভাবে করে যাচ্ছি। এ কারণে কয়েক বছর ধরে প্রতিবছরই আমরা বিশ্বের বিভিন্ন দেশে রপ্তানি বাজার সম্প্রসারণ করছি। রেনাটা যে বিশ্বমানের ওষুধ তৈরি করে, তারই স্বীকৃতি বৈশ্বিক এসব অনুমোদন।'

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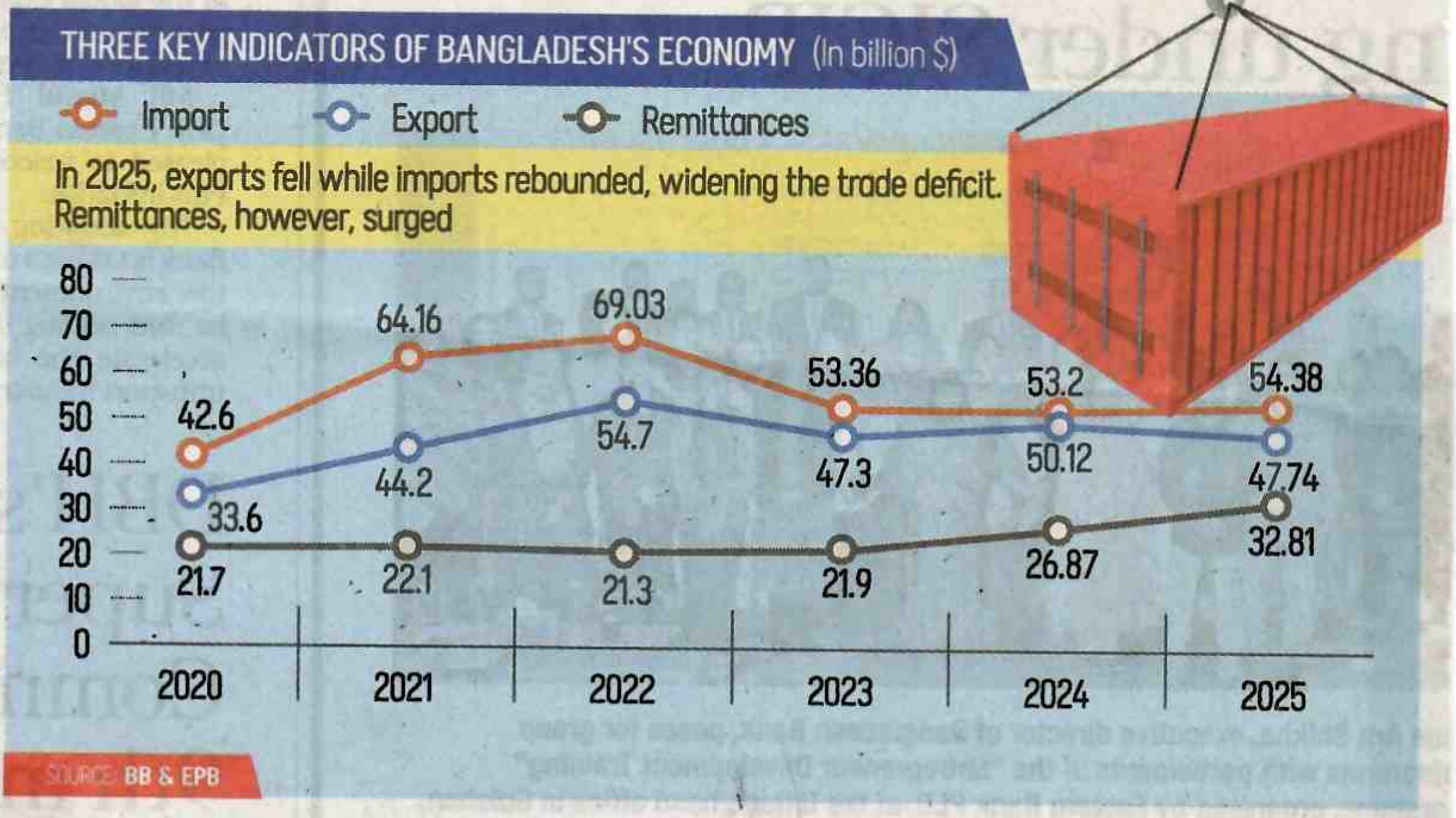
Uneasy recovery: strong reserves, weak exports

Record remittances and recovering foreign-exchange reserves offer a rare cushion, but weakening exports expose vulnerabilities



SOHEL PARVEZ

For Bangladesh's economy, the year 2025 closed not with a definitive verdict, but with a mixed bag that has left economists in more than the usual anxiety. On one side of the ledger, the news was almost jubilant: remittances surged to an all-time high of $32.8 billion. The foreign-exchange reserves, which were over $21 billion a year ago, have staged a reassuring recovery. As the new year dawned, readily usable reserves stood at $28.5 billion, enough to cover five months of import bills. This is a cushion comfortably above the International Monetary Fund's three-month threshold, a statistic that, in simpler times, might have been cause for a victory lap.

While some indicators are brightening, the factory floors are telling a gloomier story. Exports that have driven Bangladesh's economic growth for decades stumbled in the final months of 2025. The downturn exposes a structural fragility that has long worried economists: the country's overwhelming reliance on the readymade garment industry. Garment exports managed only a tepid one percent year-on-year increase, bringing in $38.82 billion. This stagnation in the primary sector was compounded by a collapse in others; shipments of frozen fish, agricultural products, and various manufactured items all fell, dragging the overall export figures down with them.

"Falling exports are deeply concerning and point to a structural weakness that remittances alone cannot offset", said Mohammad Abdur Razzaque, chairman of Research and Policy Integration for Development, a research organisation, cautioning

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that the pressure on the export sector is unlikely to lift anytime soon, reflecting both cyclical and longer-term challenges in global trade.

The causes of this malaise are both external and domestic. The external world is no longer the reliable partner it once was.

"There is no credible signal that the global trading environment will turn supportive any time soon. It remains unfavourable, fragmented, and highly unpredictable," Razzaque added.

"There is no indication that the global trading environment will improve. It remains unfavourable and unpredictable," Razzaque added. The shifting tectonic plates of international commerce -- specifically the impact of increased US reciprocal tariffs, the opacity of American trade policy, and an increasingly complex geopolitical landscape are reshaping trade flows and investment decisions, with adverse implications for export-dependent economies such as Bangladesh.

In the United States, a newly protectionist mood has taken a heavy toll on the global economy. Following the imposition of an additional 20 percent tariff, prices for Bangladeshi apparel rose, and American demand predictably softened. Closer to home, a logistical severing occurred last year when India removed transhipment benefits for Bangladesh's exports to third countries. The result was an immediate increase in lead times and delayed deliveries, prompting unsentimental foreign buyers to shift their orders to alternative suppliers.

Razzaque also points to specific unknowns that complicate the calculus for Dhaka, particularly regarding its neighbours.

"We do not know how US tariff policy towards India or for any other country will evolve, and that uncertainty matters for Bangladesh's competitive position in key markets," he said.

"Taken together, these unresolved policy issues and extremely volatile global geopolitical landscape suggest a period of heightened uncertainty in the global trading system, an assessment widely shared by economists working on applied international trade and development."

Domestic headwinds have been equally fierce. Political uncertainty, coupled with interest-rate hikes designed to curb inflation, has driven up the cost of doing business, eroding price competitiveness.

This is concerning, even though the economy had, until recently, shown genuine signs of recovery. Imports, after two years of contraction, had finally rebounded in 2025, posting a 2 percent increase -- usually a signal of industrial vitality. Private investment, too, seemed to be waking from its hibernation; in November, credit flow to the private sector ticked up to 6.58 percent, from 6.23 percent just a month prior.

This modest progress towards economic stabilisation has come at a steep cost: slow growth, stagnant investment, rising unemployment, and declining real wages. The economy has been suffering from a slowdown for the fourth year running. If the export downturn persists, it will undo the gains of the last few months.

The business community is currently in a state of suspended animation, waiting for the national election scheduled for next month. The hope is that the polls will usher in a democratic transition, restoring policy predictability and unleashing what some are calling an investment frenzy. There is also the seasonal promise of the coming months: Ramadan and Eid-ul-Fitr are expected to stoke consumer demand.

A political transition is viewed not merely as a democratic formality but as an economic necessity.

"A credible political transition is indispensable. The incoming government will inherit formidable challenges in dismantling long-standing bottlenecks that constrain export growth, while simultaneously safeguarding external competitiveness at a time of weakening demand and rising costs," said Razzaque, noting the amplification of pressure for the country's graduation from the least developed country category and looming loss of preferential trade treatments that have long shielded the economy.

Ashikur Rahman, the principal economist at the Policy Research Institute of Bangladesh, suggests that the era of predictable stability is over. "Internal political uncertainty, institutional stress, and governance challenges will continue shaping macroeconomic management," he said. In his view, the economic policymaking of 2026 cannot rely on old assumptions. Instead, he offered a metaphor that captures the anxious alertness of the moment. "In many ways, we must behave like a deer in a forest," Rahman said. The nation must be "always alert, always conscious of the environment, attuned to early warning signals and crisis-time economic playbooks."

In this new world, where the stable ground of today can become the chaotic sinkhole of tomorrow, survival will depend on "vigilance, adaptability, discipline, and readiness to act decisively".

The Daily Star
09 JAN 2026

FTA with Mercosur could boost garment exports: BGMEA

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

A trade agreement with Mercosur, a common trade bloc of five South American countries with more than $3 trillion in gross domestic product, could create huge garment export potential for Bangladesh, experts said yesterday.

The comment came during a meeting between leaders of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) and Uruguayan Ambassador to Bangladesh Alberto Guani at the association office in Dhaka.

Currently, local garment exporters face high duties when sending apparel items to the promising Mercosur countries—Brazil, Bolivia, Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay. BGMEA leaders said a trade agreement with the bloc would benefit both sides through expanded trade.

In particular, by using Uruguay's efficient ports and advanced transportation infrastructure, Bangladeshi garment exporters would be able to supply products easily across the entire Mercosur region, according to a statement issued by the BGMEA.

At yesterday's meeting, both sides discussed the need for Bangladesh to pursue a free trade agreement (FTA) with the Mercosur bloc to address challenges the South Asian country will face after graduating from the least developed country category.

Currently, local garment exporters face high duties when sending apparel items to the promising Mercosur countries

Bangladesh would receive special preferences for garment exports to Uruguay if it imports wool from the Latin nation under the proposed FTA, which would be beneficial for both countries, said BGMEA Director Sumaiya Islam.

Honorary Consul of Uruguay in Bangladesh Mostafa Quamrus Sobhan said Uruguayan Merino wool carries internationally recognised traceability certification, which Bangladeshi garment manufacturers could use to become more competitive in the global market.

BGMEA Senior Vice President Inamul Haq Khan highlighted various aspects of Bangladesh's garment industry and sought state-level cooperation to increase garment exports from Bangladesh to Uruguay. He noted that although Bangladesh is the world's second-largest garment exporter, it has not yet significantly penetrated the Latin American market, and the country is keen to capitalise on this opportunity.

BGMEA Director Shah Rayeed Chowdhury said Uruguay, in particular, could act as the main "gateway" for Bangladesh's readymade garment exports to the wider Mercosur region.

The ambassador of Uruguay expressed interest in increasing garment imports from Bangladesh and also proposed exporting world-class, fully traceable wool from his country to Dhaka.

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BGMEA Director Sheikh Hossain Muhammad Mustafiz said importing wool from Uruguay would allow Bangladesh to diversify its product range and strengthen its position in the Latin American market.

The Financial Express
09 JAN 2026

Renata secures Turkish approval, opens new export market

FE REPORT

Renata has secured high-class recognition from one more stringent drug authority, which opened up an opportunity to export medicines to Turkey.

In a filing on Thursday, the listed drug manufacturer informed that it had received regulatory approval from the Turkish Medicines and Medical Devices Agency for its Rajendrapur General Facility. This approval qualifies the site to register and supply oral solid dosage pharmaceutical products (tablets and capsules) to Turkey.

"This is another confirmation that we maintain one of the best drug manufacturing facilities, as we have already received approvals from some of the world's toughest authorities," Md. Jubayer Alam, company secretary of Renata, told The FE.

"Now importers will contact us to source medicines directly, whereas earlier we had to knock on the doors of our customers."

Alam also said Renata currently exports to 52 countries and has more than 80 drugs that can be exported nearly anywhere in the world.

"We need to register some drugs in Turkey before we start exporting," he added.

In the disclosure, the company said, "Turkey represents a strategically important market for Renata, positioned at the intersection of Europe and the Middle East. This approval further strengthens the company's international footprint and complements the facility's existing approvals from other stringent regulatory authorities, including EU GMP and US FDA, reaffirming Renata's commitment to global quality standards."

The company also anticipates regulatory approval of Amantadine in Turkey within the next year, which is expected to further support Renata's commercial expansion in the region, the disclosure added.

Meanwhile, the share price of Renata decreased by 0.47 per cent to Tk 383.70 on Thursday on the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE).

Renata has long been one of the top-performing listed firms, with profits growing consistently until FY22. However, subsequent increases in the dollar price, global market volatility due to the Russia-Ukraine war, and the COVID-19 pandemic significantly impacted the company, making its previously planned expansion more costly. The company has also faced pressure from high interest expenses.

Despite these challenges, Renata is gradually recovering. Its revenue has continued to grow, and it is reducing debt burdens through the issuance of preference shares.

The first batch of preference shares was fully subscribed immediately, demonstrating strong investor interest.

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The Financial Express
09 JAN 2026

H1 apparel exports slide amid weak demand, trade frictions

High living costs, US tariffs and geopolitical tensions are weighing on diversification, industry insiders say

MONIRA MUNNI

Bangladesh's readymade garment (RMG) exports to non-traditional markets posted negative growth in the first half of the current fiscal year, reflecting prolonged weakness in global demand amid economic uncertainty across key economies.

Rising living costs, sluggish growth, shifting trade regimes and geopolitical tensions have continued to dampen consumer spending on apparel worldwide, industry insiders said.

Official figures show that shipments to newer destinations fell year-on-year during July-December of FY2025-26, underscoring the challenges exporters face in diversifying beyond traditional markets at a time of heightened global volatility.

Exports to non-traditional markets like Japan, Australia, India, Korea, Mexico, New Zealand and Turkey declined by 5.52 per cent year-on-year to US$3.18 billion during the period, according to data from the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB).

The figure stood at $3.37 billion in the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year.

Industry insiders attributed the slowdown to weak consumer demand across both advanced and emerging markets, driven by high living costs, sluggish global growth, new US tariff regimes and ongoing geopolitical tensions.

Both woven garments and knitwear recorded declines during the period. Woven garment exports fell by 3.63 per cent to $1.61 billion, while knitwear shipments dropped by 7.39 per cent to $1.56 billion.

Among major emerging markets, exports to Australia declined by 12.44 per cent, Chile by 1.97 per cent and India by 10.44 per cent. Shipments to Japan edged down by less than one per cent during the July-December period of the current fiscal year.

Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, Russia and Turkey also witnessed negative growth, ranging from 9.32 per cent to as high as 26.63 per cent, EPB data show.

In contrast, only a handful of destinations - China, Brazil, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and the United Arab Emirates - posted growth, with RMG exports rising by around 7.0 per cent to nearly 29.79 per cent during the first half of the fiscal year.

Fazlul Hoque, former president of the Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BKMEA), told The Financial Express that the muted performance reflected a broader slowdown in the global apparel market.

"Demand in major traditional markets such as the European Union and the United States has weakened due to sluggish economic conditions, and the same trend is evident in non-traditional markets," he said.

"Uncertainty and disruptions, including the impact of new US tariff regimes, have dampened demand."

Mr Hoque, who is also managing director of Plummy Fashions, said his recent experience in Western markets showed that rising living costs had forced consumers to prioritise essential spending over discretionary purchases such as clothing.

Commenting on the sharp decline in shipments to India, Mohiuddin Rubel, additional managing director of Denim Expert Ltd, said the global economic slowdown and higher US tariffs had pushed Indian buyers to sell more garments in their domestic market.

He also pointed to political tensions and restrictive border measures as additional factors weighing on exports.

"Bangladesh's exports to India

million, followed by $33.34 million in November and $38.48 million in December.

In contrast, exports in September were valued at $72.39 million, after $82.29 million in August and $62.91 million in July.

Overall, RMG exports to India amounted to $336.95 million during July-December of FY2025-26, down 10.44 per cent from $376.21 million in the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year.

Mr Rubel noted that Japan, one of Bangladesh's major non-traditional markets, may have reached a plateau unless exporters move up the value chain through diversified,

million from Japan, $376.65 million from Australia, $145.82 million from China, $94.23 million from Brazil and $201.04 million from Korea.

Meanwhile, exports to the US - Bangladesh's single largest apparel market - fell marginally by 0.10 per cent to $3.83 billion in the first half under review, compared with $3.84 billion a year earlier.

Shipments to the EU declined by 4.14 per cent to $9.45 billion, while exports to the UK rose by 2.13 per cent to US$2.21 billion. Canada imported apparel worth $671.47 million, marking a 4.66 per cent increase.

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In contrast, only a handful of destinations - China, Brazil, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and the United Arab Emirates - posted growth, with RMG exports rising by around 7.0 per cent to nearly 29.79 per cent during the first half of the fiscal year.

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He also pointed to political tensions and restrictive border measures as additional factors weighing on exports.

"Bangladesh's exports to India have fallen over the past six months mainly due to bilateral political tensions and certain restrictive measures at the border," he said.

According to him, RMG exports to India dropped sharply from October, when shipments stood at $48.54 million, followed by $33.34 million in November and $38.48 million in December.

In contrast, exports in September were valued at $72.39 million, after $82.29 million in August and $62.91 million in July.

Overall, RMG exports to India amounted to $336.95 million during July-December of FY2025-26, down 10.44 per cent from $376.21 million in the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year.

Mr Rubel noted that Japan, one of Bangladesh's major non-traditional markets, may have reached a plateau unless exporters move up the value chain through diversified, higher value-added products, improved productivity and shorter lead times.

Japanese buyers, he added, remain particularly sensitive to quality and compliance requirements.

During the period, Bangladesh earned $597.95 million from Japan, $376.65 million from Australia, $145.82 million from China, $94.23 million from Brazil and $201.04 million from Korea.

Meanwhile, exports to the US - Bangladesh's single largest apparel market - fell marginally by 0.10 per cent to $3.83 billion in the first half under review, compared with $3.84 billion a year earlier.

Shipments to the EU declined by 4.14 per cent to $9.45 billion, while exports to the UK rose by 2.13 per cent to US$2.21 billion. Canada imported apparel worth $671.47 million, marking a 4.66 per cent increase.

Overall, Bangladesh's total RMG exports declined by 2.63 per cent year-on-year to $19.36 billion in the first half of FY2025-26, compared with $19.88 billion in the same period of the previous fiscal year.

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The Financial Express

09 JAN 2026

Export cash incentives to continue till June 2026

FE REPORT

The government will continue to provide cash incentive facilities for exporters for an additional six months in order to support them during ongoing global economic challenges.

According to a notification issued by the Finance Division of the Ministry of Finance on Wednesday, the government has extended export cash incentive facilities until June 30, 2026, as part of a long-standing policy measure.

Exporters will still be able to receive cash incentives at the current rates for shipments made during this extended period, as the facility was originally set to expire on December 31, 2025.

The extension comes at a time when Bangladesh's exporters are facing subdued global demand, higher production and logistics costs, and stricter compliance requirements in major markets such as the European Union and the United States.

In January 2024, the government began restructuring export subsidies, reducing rates for 43 product categories from between 1.0 and 15.0 per cent to 0.3-10.0 per cent, triggering strong opposition from businesses that are now calling for a rollback to earlier rates.

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The Business Standard

09 JAN 2026

BY THE NUMBER

BANGLADESH'S TOP EXPORT DESTINATIONS IN H1 FY26

Bangladesh's merchandise export earnings amounted to **$24.0** billion in the first half of the ongoing fiscal year FY26, representing a **2.2%** decline from **$24.5** billion recorded during the same period of the previous fiscal year. The RMG sector alone accounted for **80.7%** of total export earnings, amounting to **$19.4** billion in H1 FY26.

Source: Export Promotion Bureau

Country	Export value H1 FY26	Share of total	Y-o-Y Growth
United States	$4.47B	18.6%	1.5%↑
Germany	$2.36B	9.8%	10.8%↓
United Kingdom	$2.35B	9.8%	2.1%↑
Spain	$1.88B	7.9%	7.0%↑
Netherlands	$1.23B	5.1%	3.2%↑
France	$1.08B	4.5%	12.4%↓