



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Finance
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Press Release
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The 14th (fourteenth) session of the Joint Commission (JC) between the People's Republic of Bangladesh and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has been held in Riyadh, KSA.

The Joint Commission meeting has been held on 30-31 October, at the Crown Plaza Hotel, located in Riyadh's Digital City.

Headed by Economic Relations Division-ERD Secretary Ms. Sharifa Khan, a delegation from Bangladesh Side, consisting eleven members from different ministries and BD Embassy in KSA, attended the meeting. Vice Minister of the Saudi Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development Dr. Abdullah bin Nasser bin Mohammad Abuthnain, led the Saudi side.



Bangladesh Ambassador to KSA Dr. Mohammad Javed Patwary, BPM (Bar), as well as the officials of Bangladesh Embassy and Jeddah Consulate also attended the meeting.

A number of issues on Energy, Power, Labour, Consular, International Affairs, Customs, Economic, Investment, Trade, Civil Aviation, Agriculture, Education, Service and Social Affairs was discussed in the meeting.

An agreed meeting minutes was signed at the end of the meeting. The Joint Commission meeting ended up by signing two Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on two co-operation areas of both countries.

In the meeting both sides agreed to form a task force to discuss energy cooperation between Bangladesh and Saudi Arabia. The task force will sit on regular basis to harness the opportunities of cooperation between BD & KSA in Power and Energy sector. Bangladesh side requested the Saudi side for their cooperation in supplying LNG on urgent basis from suitable Saudi source on commercial basis, which was agreed by both sides. There was a discussion on Saudi Investment in Installation of Eastern Refinery Unit-2 with a capacity of 3 million metric tons annually. In the meeting, both sides discussed on the installation of 1000 MW solar power and 730 MW gas power plants in Bangladesh by Saudi ACWA Power.

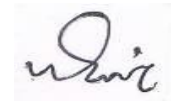
At the end of the meeting, two Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed. One was between the Ministry of shipping of Bangladesh and the Ministry of Communications of Saudi Arabia to increase mutual cooperation in all possible fields including recruitment and training of the maritime professionals of both countries. Bangladesh Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Dr Mohammad Javed Patwari, BPM (Bar) signed the MoU on behalf of Bangladesh while Deputy of Saudi Maritime Transport Mr. Abdulrahman M Althonayan signed the MoU on behalf of Saudi Arabia.

Another Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between FBCCI, Bangladesh and the Federation of Saudi Chamber and Commerce of KSA to form a Joint Business Council to increase trade between the two countries. FBCCI Vice President Habib Ullah Don, on behalf of Bangladesh side and Vice Chairman Engineer Tariq Al Haidari, Saudi Chamber of Commerce, on behalf of Saudi side, signed the MoU.

During the opening session ERD Secretary Ms. Sharifa Khan said, the Joint Commission is an important platform to review our bilateral relations periodically. It gives us the opportunity to explore areas of cooperation, identify new potentials for collaboration and reach a consensus to achieve our shared targets. ERD Secretary also met with Mr. Sultan Abdul

Rahman Al Marshed, acting Chief Executive Officer of Saudi Fund for Development (SFD) and requested him to increase Saudi Fund's cooperation in various sectors of Bangladesh.

The next meeting of the Joint Commission between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the People's Republic of Bangladesh will be held in Dhaka. The date of the next session will be fixed later.



Md. Saiduzzaman Khan
Senior Assistant Secretary

