Bangladesh Trade Portal

Bangladesh Regional Connectivity Project-1
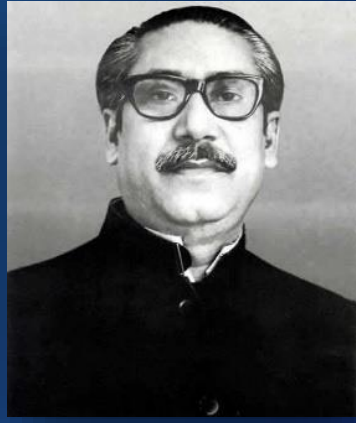
Ministry of Commerce

Information Portal

One Portal to make Export and Import Easy in Bangladesh

www.bangladeshtradeportal.gov.bd

The Vision for "Sonar Bangla" and Digital Bangladesh

**The Father of the Nation
Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman**

**Honorable Prime Minister
Sheikh Hasina,** MP

**Honorable Minister of Commerce
Tipu Munshi,** MP

What is the Bangladesh Trade Portal?

Bangladesh Trade Portal (BTP) is an official source of all regulatory information relevant to traders who wish to move goods, merchandise and services across the borders of Bangladesh. The Ministry of Commerce of Bangladesh Government has established the Bangladesh Trade Portal (BTP) in compliance with the international trading system of the current competitive world and to improve the predictability and transparency of the country's trading laws and processes.

The main objective of the BTP is to share all national and international regulatory trade related information and other information useful for the Bangladeshi exporters and importers, foreign investors, easily and readily available in a single integrated website. Trade Portal is in line with the government's commitment to facilitate information sharing, the Five Year Plan which focuses on accelerating economic growth, as well as compliance with Article 1 of the Trade Facilitation Agreement of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

The Bangladesh Trade Portal was launched inaugurated on March 13, 2016 and version 2 has been live since January 31, 2018. BTP has contributed towards the implementation of the Digital Bangladesh vision of the Bangladesh Government. Since its take-off, the portal has received visitors from more than 160 countries showing that the overseas trading community has a growing interest to the Trade Portal as well as the local traders. The major role of BTP is to promote and facilitate trade by improving transparency, liaison between local and foreign traders and acts as a trade enquiry point.

Usefulness of the Bangladesh Trade Portal

Trade Portal presents all regulatory information needed by the local and international traders on a single window which is comprehensive, accurate and up-to-date and real time data. It ensures that traders have easy access to relevant information and helps them be compliant. It also helps reduce the cost of complying with trade procedures. By bringing together relevant government Ministries and Departments, Trade Portal serves as a critical stepping-stone towards the greater Trade Facilitation.

The portal also stores information relating to Bangladesh customs tariff rate, existing trade regulations and procedures including laws, administrative procedures, TBT/SPS enquiry points, guidance notes, applicable fees, forms, licenses and permits. In addition, the portal catalogues information on international, regional and bi-lateral trade agreements, guide to export-imports, cash incentive for exporter and border trade. User can also find the updated market access information including Duty-Free & Quota-Free Market Access and GSP Facilities on the portal.

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) Signed

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the 39 relevant public and private agencies and the Ministry of Commerce on August 08, 2019. The MoU is an essential foundation to the seamless operation of the BTP as it guarantees timely and effective sharing of information between the stakeholder organizations.

Key Information Presented on the Portal

Export Resources

Commercial Exports,
Export Policy Order,
Incentives on Export,
Exporter's Database,
Export Guide.

Import Resources

Commercial Imports,
Import Policy Order,
Importer's Database,
Prohibited and Conditional Import Goods.

Market Access Information

Bilateral and free trade agreements,
Duty Free and Quota Free (DFQF) Market Access,
Preferential Market (GSP),
Commercial Wings in Foreign Missions.

Information for Entrepreneurs

Overview of the Bangladesh Economy,
Business start-up processes in Bangladesh,
Bangladesh Export Processing Zones,
SPS-TBT Inquiry Points,
Information for travelers.

Trade Information

Commodities & Tariff (HS Code Wise),
Legal Documents,
Measures & Standards,
Procedures,
Forms.

Utilities of the Bangladesh Trade Portal

Improves	Transparency since all required steps and costs in the Export & Import process are clearly defined.
Increases	Speed at which business may be transacted
Reduces	Cost of doing business and procedural times
Encourages	Synergy and efficiency between government entities
Decreases	Compliance time costs for importers since all Export & Import requirements are listed in one place
Standardizes	Presentation of laws and regulation
Builds	Trading credibility with other nations and external traders

Benefits of the Bangladesh Trade Portal

- Liaisons between Local and Foreign Traders
- Serves as Official Trade Inquiry Point
- Promotes Export
- Serves as Trade Repository for Researcher
- Generates Employment

Development in the Latest Version

Two Evaluation Surveys were conducted to evaluate the impression of the business community regarding the first version of the Trade Portal. Based on the feedback of the surveys, ministry of commerce took initiative to develop the version. Trade Portal's New Version has equipped with a very sophisticated layout and interactive contents. Users certainly find a new experience while visiting the new version.

Responsive dropdown Top Bar Menu

Users can easily find the core information at the very beginning of browsing the portal.

Multilanguage Facilities

Along with current bilingual (Bangla and English) facilities, all the major languages viz Chinese, Hindi, Arabic, France and Spanish are to be included in future versions.

Core Trade Information on the Home Page

Essential export/import information are delineated on the home page with engaging icons.

Information on Trade in Goods and Service

Commodity, product, goods and Service Measures are categorized in the latest version.

Well-designed Side Bar Menu

Earlier side bar menu looked clumsy & difficult to find the require information while latest version has a user-friendly side bar menu.

Improved Internal Search Option

Internal search option has been restructured making it easier to find the required information.

Development Plan of BTP under the Bangladesh Regional Connectivity Project-1

Bangladesh Trade Portal has been included as a sub-component of the Bangladesh Regional Connectivity Project-1 of the Ministry of Commerce in order to ensure its sustainability. Under the project, the following plans will be implemented with the aim of increasing the usefulness of the portal:

- Developing Android/iOS based services (mobile apps development);
- Preparing dedicated section for RMG industry;
- Special section for the women traders
- Investment opportunities in Bangladesh
- Developing area based specialized section to serve the specific need of the local traders;
- Highlighting the details of one district one export product;
- Making product based/market video contents/tutorials for exporters/importers;
- Presenting sector brief of the top export/import items;
- Assist in product and market diversification
- Publishing and disseminating monthly and fortnightly trade journal;
- Developing multilingual version;
- Crosslinking the trade portal to all Bangladesh missions abroad;
- Establishment and maintenance of web based National Enquiry Point to address the trade query.