



**His Excellency Md. Abdul Hamid**  
Hon'ble President  
The People's Republic of Bangladesh



18 October, 2014  
03 Kartik, 1421

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## MESSAGE

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I am delighted to learn that the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka (MCCI) is observing its 110th anniversary on 18 October, 2014 in Dhaka. On this auspicious occasion, I extend my heartfelt thanks and felicitations to the esteemed members of MCCI and distinguished guests from home and abroad.

I have been informed that MCCI, a century-old trade body in the country, has been playing a pivotal role in expanding trade and commerce since its establishment in 1904. I am happy to know that since its inception, the Chamber dedicated its activities to the task of promoting trade and industry in this region. It holds a unique position because of its affiliation with recognized commercial and industrial organizations of the country. It is a matter of pride that presently almost all major established industrial organizations in private sector, the public sector corporations, banks and insurance companies are the valued members of the Chamber.

Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was a visionary leader who had sowed the seeds of industrialization in Bangladesh after liberation. Today, we have started to reap the fruits of his farsightedness. The present Government is pledged to bring the benefits of economic and industrial growth to the doorsteps of every citizen of Bangladesh. I am confident that with the concerted efforts both from public and private institutions, we shall be able to materialize the vision.

Bangladesh has already achieved significant progress in private sector, particularly in the fields of ready-made garments, pharmaceuticals, ceramics and ship-building industry. I am happy to know that MCCI has contributed substantially to this trend of progress over the century and has now been providing professional and constructive policy to the pertinent institutions. I believe that MCCI, with its vast experience

and expertise, is now an ideal platform where the growing and established entrepreneurs can come together and share ideas for boosting country's economy.

I wish the observance of the MCCI's 110th anniversary celebration a great success.

Khoda Hafez, May Bangladesh Live Forever

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Md. Abdul Hamid', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

**Md. Abdul Hamid**  
Hon'ble President  
The People's Republic of Bangladesh



**Her Excellency Sheikh Hasina, MP**

Hon'ble Prime Minister

The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

09 September 2014

25 Bhadra 1421

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## MESSAGE

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I am delighted to learn that the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka (MCCI) is celebrating its 110th anniversary this October. On this grand occasion I would like to congratulate everyone who has been associated with MCCI and wish the Chamber a vibrant and successful future.

Ours is a people's government which is working diligently to turn Bangladesh into a middle-income country by 2021 and a developed one by 2041. Focusing on these goals we have already made encouraging strides in the socio-economic front in the last five years. The Government has been investing heavily in infrastructural development, especially in the field of power generation which is a major input for industrialization. We have tackled the demand-supply gap by directly involving the private sector and the move has enabled businesses to expand.

To encourage investment, trade and commerce, we are considering allocating separate economic and industrial zones for investors. Our existing Export Processing Zones are also attractive for investment. In addition, the Economic Zones Act 2010 has created seven exclusive economic zones across the country.

Bangladesh's investment regime is the most liberal in South Asia as our National Industrial Policy allows 100 percent foreign equity with unrestricted exit policy, easy remittance of royalty, repatriation of profits, protection of foreign investment and steady energy prices. Our young and industrious workforce with very competitive and affordable wages is also very attractive. Furthermore, Bangladesh's strategic geographic location makes its exports accessible to huge markets across the globe.

In this country we now have a vibrant private sector, sound macroeconomic management, a robust banking and financial sector and an increasing trend in the flow of remittances and FDIs. Our ever-expanding multifaceted social safety nets and the use of ICTs in the delivery of e-services have energized the country's socioeconomic activities and thus have created an ideal environment for business and investment.

Such a positive economic atmosphere would not have been possible without the sincere support from all quarters including MCCI which has been a driving force for the economy with its policy recommendations, research and advocacy.

You have outstanding stories to celebrate from 1904 onwards. Now is the time to share those experiences with a new generation of entrepreneurs to help them build the Golden Bangladesh visualized by the Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

I wish you all a grand success.

Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu,

May Bangladesh Live Forever.



**Abul Maal Abdul Muhith, MP**  
Hon'ble Finance Minister  
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2014

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## MESSAGE

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It is with great pleasure I note that the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) is going to celebrate its 110th anniversary on 18th October this year. Let me welcome the distinguished guests from home and abroad who will join this great celebration programme.

MCCI is a very distinguished body in the field of trade and industry and has been maintaining good standard in its research as well as explanatory work on tax laws. The way MCCI has been securing the interests of businesses and creating opportunities for young entrepreneurs is particularly praiseworthy.

I would like to congratulate our business and industry for doubling exports of the country under the odds of global financial crisis in the last five years. I expect a further doubling in our present term of five years. More importantly, I plead for robust growth in investment, an area which has not seen much progress recently.

Not simply in the past five years but even before I have noted that MCCI has been a close and helpful partner in many different situations. I look forward to working more closely with MCCI to advance the country's economic interest in the days to come under the bold leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

“Joy Bangla, Joy Bangabandhu

May Bangladesh Live Forever”

(Abdul Maal A. Muhith, MP)



**Amir Hossain Amu, MP**  
Hon'ble Minister for Industries  
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

30 September, 2014

## MESSAGE

On the occasion of the 110th Anniversary of the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI), it is both a pleasure and an honor for me to express my heartiest felicitations and good wishes to the President, members and all the staffs of the organization.

Since the Independence of our nation under the leadership of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in 1971, the government has given special emphasis on industrialization with a view to promote living standards of our common people. I would like to stress that, the MCCI has always supported our government's endeavors by carrying out its mandates in a responsible manner.

Generations of dedicated business leaders and a committed staff have made MCCI as a "Centre of Excellence" in the field of development of trade and commerce in our country and beyond.

I believe that MCCI, with its skillful resources, will work together with the government in materializing the vision of making Bangladesh a middle level income country by 2021 as well as a developed country by 2041 under the dynamic and visionary leadership of our Hon'ble Prime Minister Her Excellency Sheikh Hasina.

I wish all out success of this vibrant organization.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amir Hossain Amu". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

(Amir Hossain Amu, M.P)



**Tofail Ahmed, MP**  
Honorable Commerce Minister  
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

## MESSAGE

I am happy to note that the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) is going to celebrate its 110th anniversary on 18th October of this year. On this auspicious moment, I extend my heartfelt greetings to the president and members of MCCI.

As the leading Chamber of Bangladesh, MCCI has been playing an important role in accelerating the country's economic development through constant innovation, hard work and commitment. I appreciate the value that MCCI has been adding to the country's overall economic development through the entrepreneurial activities of its valued members.

The government's and MCCI's common goal is to strengthen the economy of Bangladesh by assisting businesses to grow and flourish. As MCCI steps into the 111th year, I hope and believe that it will contribute more and more towards the economic progression of the country under the able leadership and guidance of our Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

I wish you the best in all your endeavors.

Joy Bangla, Joy Bangabandhu.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tofail', with a stylized flourish at the end.

(Tofail Ahmed, MP)



**Rokia Afzal Rahman**

President

Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka

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## | MESSAGE |

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On 18 October 2014, the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka, (MCCI), celebrates its 110th anniversary". I take this opportunity to congratulate all the members of our organization and welcome our distinguished guests, particularly former President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, to the celebration programs.

We have indeed come a long way from the establishment of the Chamber in 1904, when a group of enthusiastic business people came together to build the foundation of the Chamber and vowed to work for the region's economic progress. Generations of leaders have since passed through the hallowed halls of this institution, and each has played a pivotal role in the advancement and economic development of the region and the Country. I take great pleasure in acknowledging the leadership, commitment and drive of the former Presidents of MCCI, who have steered this organization to the preeminent status it enjoys today.

Over the years the Chamber has undertaken wide-ranging research on the economy, trade and business. This has been disseminated to its members, other stakeholders and the public at large through workshops, seminars and press releases. It has been our privilege to be a vital resource and support for the Government as well as our members.

We are proponents of ethical business, good governance and transparency in businesses. At MCCI, we believe that ethics in business is essential for sustainable growth.

I take this opportunity to thank the Government of Bangladesh, particularly the Prime Minister's Office, the Finance Ministry, Commerce Ministry and the Ministry of Industries, with whom we have worked and will continue to work closely to remove barriers to and facilitate trade and investment in the Country.

As we step into the 111 year of MCCI, I on behalf of the members of the Chamber, pledge to uphold the legacy that our predecessors have bequeathed to us. We will continue to place the interests of the country and its people foremost to take us to even greater heights in the years to come.

With my finest compliments

Rokia Afzal Rahman

President



**Anis A. Khan**

Chairperson

Organizing Committee

110th Anniversary Celebration – MCCI

and

Vice-President

Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka

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It is with much delight that I welcome you all to the 110th anniversary celebrations of the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI), Dhaka.

The foundation of the Chamber in 1904 marked a turning point in relations between government and business in the country. Over the course of the last century and more, MCCI has been able to establish itself as a key player in creating a thriving business environment, in promoting the interests of our entrepreneurs in the domestic arena as well as in international relations. Our members remain steadfast in support of MCCI's mission to promote business and investment, sharing a common belief that open and fair markets can bring about positive changes, both at home and abroad.

We are especially honored by the presence of His Excellency Dr. A. P. J. Abul Kalam, former President of the Republic of India at the 110 year celebrations. President Kalam's works are indeed a matter of great inspiration in our common pursuit of industrial progress and economic excellence through the right application of knowledge, innovation and commitment.

On behalf of all members of the Organizing Committee, I wish to thank the President Ms. Rokia Afzal Rahman and all members of the Chamber Committee, for giving us the rare opportunity of organizing this spectacular event. I am also grateful to the Chamber Secretariat, led by the Secretary General Farooq Ahmed, for extending its wholehearted support to the organization of the celebrations. Arranging an event of such a magnitude is not an easy task, and there have been many challenges along the way. However, we are finally here, and I congratulate everyone, who have worked tirelessly throughout the last few months for staging the event.

Going forward, MCCI faces a number of challenges. As the representative body of the business community in this country, it must continue to serve its members with added vigour and vision. At the same time, we must attract young professionals and businesspersons to strengthen its leadership pool. And in an increasingly globalized economy, the Chamber must help its members identify and seize opportunities abroad.

Before concluding, I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks to all members for all that MCCI has accomplished, not only in the past year, but over the past eleven decades. The key to MCCI's success in its 110 year existence has been its pioneering spirit and forward looking vision. I am therefore confident that the Chamber will continue to build on its many achievements and leave a proud legacy for the next generation of Bangladeshi citizens. I wish all who make up MCCI, every success, as we embark on our next 100 years.

Anis A. Khan