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Keynote Paper, "Japan Bangladesh Trade and Investment: Opportunities and Way Forward" by Mr. Takeshi Mamiya, Regional CEO, ASEAN & Southwest Asia, Marubeni Corporation, and Representative from JBCCEC (Japan Bangladesh Committee for Commerce and Economic Cooperation)

Following Japan's diplomatic recognition of Bangladesh in February 1972, ahead of many other nations, sequence of events marked the commencement of economic cooperation between the public and private sectors of Japan and Bangladesh.

The relationship continues to expand in line with Bangladesh's economic growth, and owing to the infrastructure developments, the number of Japanese companies operating in Bangladesh is increasing year by year.

The keynote speech would touch upon some sectors in which many Japanese companies are currently working, such as RMG sector, infrastructure sector, and the new sectors where future growth can be expected, and how these sectors can contribute to the elevation of bilateral relationship.

RMG sector is the most important industry of Bangladesh, as it contributes to roughly 80% of foreign currency earning. Japan textile machinery industry has continued to support Bangladesh RMG industry with its product and can continue to provide the high-efficient technological solution needed by the industry from time to time.

With Bangladesh graduating LDC status in 2026, entering of Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between Japan and Bangladesh is of utmost importance for the continued development of textile sector.

As an important bilateral business aspect, many Japanese companies engaged in infrastructure projects are working diligently to deliver on time and to the level of quality expected from us. When completed, for sure, these projects will be tremendous contribution to Bangladesh economy.

Furthermore, new areas of focus will be the ICT field and manufacturing in special economic zones.

Japan and Bangladesh have come long way in deepening our economic relations owing to fabulous relationship between the two government. However, this is still the beginning of what should be a longer, larger and deeper economic relations to come.

Attracting FDI is the common goal of most countries in order to create local employment and economic growth however, it is not something achievable overnight.

Some suggestions for attracting FDI will be given from the historical experience.