

Prioritizing Skills, Logistics, and Standards for Enhanced Trade Facilitation



Meeting between FBCCI and the World Bank

From the Desk of the Administrator



Esteemed Members, Colleagues, and Valued Stakeholders,

It is with distinct honor that we unveil the June edition of our Monthly E-bulletin- a curated reflection of our unwavering commitment to advancing trade and investment. This issue encapsulates our strategic initiatives, inclusive engagements, and influential policy advocacy efforts, all aimed at fostering sustainable economic growth and collaborative progress.

In today's rapidly evolving global economic landscape, fostering a resilient and responsive trade and investment ecosystem has become more vital than ever. This bulletin offers a comprehensive overview of our multi-faceted engagements over the past month, ranging from high-level stakeholder dialogues and sector-specific consultations to enabling sustainable growth, reducing trade barriers, and creating a conducive environment for both domestic and foreign investment.

As part of the ongoing mission titled 'World Trade Organization (WTO) Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) Tracking Tool

Mission: June 22–26, 2025', a focused meeting between the FBCCI and the World Bank was held on June 24, 2025, at the FBCCI premises in Gulshan, Dhaka. The discussion centered on key trade facilitation issues in Bangladesh, emphasizing areas that require coordinated efforts to streamline procedures and enhance efficiency in cross-border trade.

In pursuit of enhanced trade collaboration and economic cooperation with development partners, the FBCCI hosted a discussion meeting and B2B (Business-to-Business) session with a visiting business delegation from China on June 1, 2025, at the FBCCI. The engagement aimed to encourage meaningful dialogue and promote mutually beneficial partnerships between the two business communities.

With the ambition of conducting a fair and transparent election, on June 18, 2025, the FBCCI Election Board has announced the schedule for the FBCCI's Executive Committee Election for the term 2025-2026 and 2026-2027. According to the schedule, the election will be held on September 07, 2025.

Throughout the month of June, the FBCCI remained actively engaged in a series of strategic dialogues and consultative meetings with key stakeholders, prominent business leaders, and esteemed representatives from various chambers, trade associations, and industry forums. These engagements reflect FBCCI's ongoing commitment to championing the interests of the business community. Additionally, FBCCI continues to play a vital role in representing Bangladesh's private sector in high-level deliberations at both national and international platforms.

The 23rd edition of the bulletin features an article titled 'FBCCI Drives Private Sector Engagement in National Disaster Resilience', authored by the FBCCI Safety Council, highlighting the organization's proactive role in strengthening disaster preparedness through private sector involvement.

In conclusion, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all our esteemed members, business leaders, and stakeholders for their steadfast support and collaboration. It is through the shared commitment and contributions of individuals across every sector that we can confidently look forward to sustained progress and a resilient economy.

With sincere regards,

Md. Hafizur Rahman
Administrator, FBCCI

Meeting between FBCCI and the World Bank



As part of the mission titled 'World Trade Organization (WTO) Trade Facilitation Agreement (FTA) Tracking Tool Mission: June 22-26, 2025', a meeting was conducted between the FBCCI and World Bank, on 24 June 2025 at FBCCI office in Gulshan, Dhaka.

The Administrator of FBCCI Mr. Md. Hafizur Rahman chaired the meeting.

The World Bank team includes Mr. Melvin Spreij, Senior Trade Facilitation Specialist; Ms. Theresa Morrisey, Trade Facilitation Consultant; and Ms. Nusrat Nahid Babi, Senior Transport Specialist & Task Team Leader.

The discussion was stressed on issues related to strengthening trade facilitation and ensuring the ease of doing business in Bangladesh.

Local entrepreneurs emphasized several key priorities, including the advancement of technical skills, improvements in logistics and infrastructure, and the establishment of a laboratory accredited to international standards.

The World Bank delegation accorded significant consideration to the perspectives shared by the business community regarding trade facilitation.

Among others, Former Director of the FBCCI Mr. Md. Abdul Haque, Senior Vice President of the Bangladesh Plastic Goods Manufacturers & Exporters Association (BPGMEA) K.M. Iqbal Hassain, Joint Secretary General of the BARVIDA Mr. Syed Juglul Hossain, FBCCI Secretary General Mr. Md. Alamgir, Head of International Affairs Mr. Md. Zafar Iqbal ndc, Joint Executive Secretary of the Bangladesh Freight Forwarders Association (BAFFA) Mr. Farouk Ahammed, business leaders and representatives were present at the meeting.

Chinese Business Delegation visited FBCCI



A discussion meeting was held between the FBCCI and visiting business delegation from China on June 1, 2025, at the FBCCI, Motijheel, Dhaka. The meeting was followed by a B2B (Business-to-Business) session.

The Administrator of FBCCI Mr. Md. Hafizur Rahman chaired the discussion meeting. Mr. Qian Qi, Vice Chairman of the China International Chamber of Commerce for the Private Sector (CICCCPS) led the Chinese delegation.

The discussion emphasized on boosting trade & investment, reinforcing economic cooperation, and exploring the untapped potentials between the Bangladesh and China. Both countries see immense trade potential in sectors such as agriculture, ICT, energy, fintech, infrastructure, as well as leather and leather goods.

Members of the FBCCI Shohayok Committee Mrs. Nasreen Fatema Awal, Mr. Giasuddin Chowdhury (Khokon), Mr. Prabir Kumar Saha,

Mr. Belayet Hossain Bhuiyan, Former First Vice-President of FBCCI Mr. Mohammad Ali, President of Bangladesh Textile Mills Association (BTMA) Mr. Showkat Aziz Russell, Director of Mir Telecom Ltd. Ms. Mahreen Nasir, Secretary General of the FBCCI Mr. Md. Alamgir, Head of International Affairs Wing Mr. Md. Zafar Iqbal ndc, General Body Members of the FBCCI, business leaders and others were present at the meeting.

Ministry of Commerce Formed the FBCCI Election Board (2025-2027)

The Ministry of Commerce has constituted the Election Board and the Election Appeal Board to oversee the Executive Council Election of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) for the terms 2025-2026 and 2026-2027.



An official order to this effect was issued by the Ministry on 2 June 2025.

Mr. Md. Abdur Razzak, Additional Secretary (IIT) of the Ministry of Commerce has been appointed as the Chairman of FBCCI's Election Board. The Board also comprises Ms. Mursheda Zaman, Joint Secretary (IIT-2 Section), and Mr. Mustafizur Rahman, Joint Secretary (WTO Section-3), both representing the Ministry of Commerce as esteemed members.

Concurrently, Mr. Md. Abdur Rahim Khan, Additional Secretary (Export), Ministry of Commerce, has been appointed as the Chairman of the Election Appeal Board. The Board includes Mr. Tanvir Ahmed, Joint Secretary (Admin-2 Section), and Dr. Md. Razzakul Islam, Deputy Secretary (Export-4), both from the Ministry of Commerce, as members.

Preparatory Meeting with FBCCI Election Board and Appeal Board



A preparatory meeting between the FBCCI Administrator Mr. Md. Hafizur Rahman and FBCCI Election Board & Appeal Board for the term 2025-2026 and 2026-2027, was held on 03 June 2025 at FBCCI office in Motijheel, Dhaka.

Mr. Md. Abdur Razzak, Chairman of the FBCCI Election Board, attended the meeting accompanied by Ms. Mursheda Zaman and Mr. Mustafizur Rahman, members of the Election Board.

In addition, Mr. Md. Abdur Rahim Khan, Chairman of the FBCCI Election Appeal Board, was present along with fellow Appeal Board members Mr. Tanvir Ahmed and Dr. Md. Razzakul Islam.

Mr. Md. Alamgir, Secretary General of the FBCCI also attended the meeting.

Meeting of the FBCCI Election Board and Election Appeal Board



Mr. Md. Hafizur Rahman, Administrator of the FBCCI, chaired Meeting of the FBCCI's Election Board and Election Appeal Board was held on June 16, 2025 at FBCCI office in Motijheel, Dhaka.

Mr. Md. Hafizur Rahman, Administrator of the FBCCI, chaired the meeting.

Chairman of the FBCCI Election Board Mr. Md. Abdur Razzak, Chairman of the Election Appeal Board Mr. Md. Abdur Rahim Khan, Member of the Election Board Ms. Mursheda Zaman, Secretary General of FBCCI Mr. Md. Alamgir, Senior Additional Secretary General Shah Md. Abdul Khaleque and others were present at the meeting.

FBCCI attended the Workshop on Orientation on Communication



Brig. Gen. (retd) Abu Nayeem Md. Shahidullah, Advisor of the FBCCI Safety Council, attended the workshop on 'Orientation on Communication, Documentation, and Branding', organized by the Bangladesh Preparedness Partnership (BPP) program, funded by the Gates Foundation and supported by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC), was held on 29 June 2025 at Hotel Bengal Blueberry, Dhaka.

Mr. K M Abdul Wadud, Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, graced the event as the chief guest.

Program Lead of the ADPC Mr. Edwin M. Salonga, Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief Mr. Abu Daud Md. Gulam Mustafa, Joint Secretary of the Local Government Division Mr. Mohammad Saiful Islam Mazomder, Director (MIM) of the Department of Disaster Management, and ADPC Focal Person Mr. Netai Chandra Dey Sarker and others attended the workshop.

FBCCI Safety Council Facilitated Orientation on Capacity Assessment Tool at Cox's Bazar



The FBCCI Safety Council, in collaboration with the Safety Cell of the Cox's Bazar Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CBCCI), facilitated a day-long orientation session on the Capacity, Inventory, and Risk Assessment Tool for local business entities. The event was held at the CBCCI meeting room in Cox's Bazar.

The session was formally inaugurated by Mr. Abu Murshed Chowdhury, President of CBCCI, who emphasized the importance of strengthening disaster preparedness and resilience among local businesses. He commended the initiative for equipping local actors with the skills necessary to assess and understand their operational risks.

The orientation was conducted by Md. Rejaur Rahman, CEO of GPAD Ltd., who developed the assessment questionnaire. He trained members of the Private Sector Emergency Response Team (PERT) on data collection procedures using the KoBo Toolbox. This tool will be used to gather information from 300 business entities across various local business associations in the district.

Mr. Md. Monjur Kader Khan, Program Coordinator, and Mr. Md. Shakhawat Hossain, Capacity Building Specialist of the FBCCI Safety Council, represented FBCCI at the event. They highlighted the Council's continuing role in enhancing private sector disaster resilience through technical facilitation and strategic local partnerships.

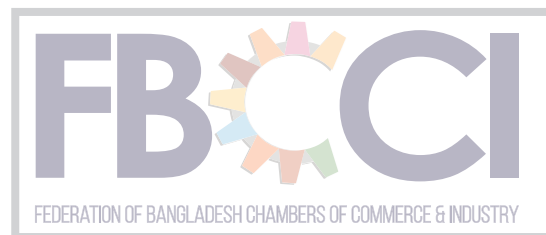
This initiative is part of a broader effort under the Bangladesh Preparedness Partnership (BPP) to assess and strengthen the capacity of business communities in hazard-prone areas. It is being implemented with technical cooperation from the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) and support from the Gates Foundation.

The successful event underscored the strength of collaboration among national and local business chambers, development partners, and private sector actors in preparing businesses to manage future risks through informed planning and coordinated response.

Ambassador-Designate to Singapore met FBCCI Administrator

Ms. Ferdousi Shahriar, Ambassador-Designate of Bangladesh to Singapore, met with Mr. Md. Hafizur Rahman, Administrator of the FBCCI, on June 16, 2025, at the FBCCI office in Motijheel, Dhaka. The meeting featured a productive discussion focused on enhancing bilateral trade relations between Bangladesh and Singapore.

Mr. Md. Alamgir, Secretary General of the FBCCI, and Mr. Md. Zafar Iqbal, ndc, Head of the International Affairs Wing, were also present at the meeting.



FBCCI Drives Private Sector Engagement in National Disaster Resilience

Bangladesh is a country frequently battered by cyclones, floods, and other natural and manmade hazards; economic resilience is a top priority. Rising to this challenge, the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) Safety Council has launched a pioneering initiative: the Private Sector Emergency Response Team (PERT)—a landmark effort to embed private-sector engagement into national disaster preparedness and response.

Established in close coordination with chambers of commerce across the country, particularly in the most hazard-prone districts such as Bagerhat, Cox's Bazar, and Kurigram, PERT comprises 128 trained volunteers—99 men and 29 women—who are young entrepreneurs or nominated representatives from local businesses. These individuals not only reflect the energy and leadership of the private sector but also a shared commitment to community welfare and national resilience.

At the heart of this initiative lies a dedicated PERT Management Guideline, developed by the FBCCI Safety Council and aligned with the “National Volunteer Policy 2023”. The guideline outlines clear standards for selection, training, and engagement, ensuring that members are chosen for their leadership potential and commitment to service. Training modules include emergency response, search and rescue, first aid, and crisis communication. When disaster strikes, PERT members are mobilized quickly and in coordination with local government authorities to provide immediate, on-the-ground support.



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PERT members are more than volunteers—they're trained first responders who help keep communities and businesses functioning during emergencies. This initiative strengthens not only disaster response capacity but also investor confidence and long-term economic stability.

By minimizing economic disruption and facilitating faster recovery, PERT helps safeguard purchasing power, stabilize markets, and ensure business continuity—key components of resilience in disaster-prone regions.

To ensure effective coordination, each volunteer's information is securely stored on the FBCCI Safety Council website and shared with district administrations, local Fire Service & Civil Defence, DRRO, and concerned district chamber of commerce and industry. Volunteers are equipped with ID cards, PPE kits, high-visibility vests, and light search & rescue tools, enabling them to integrate smoothly with official emergency responders.

The Safety Council of FBCCI plans to prepare an additional 120 volunteers (PERT) by 2025, focusing on vulnerability and industry cluster zones to strengthen localized response capacity. As the PERT network expands, the private sector's role in disaster resilience will grow more prominent, reducing losses, speeding recovery, and promoting a safer environment for investment.

PERT is more than a team; it is a symbol of an aware, responsible, and committed business community. Under FBCCI's leadership, it stands as a model of strong private-sector partnership in Bangladesh's national disaster-management framework.

- *Prepared by the Safety Council, FBCCI*

FBCCI OFFICE ADDRESS

FBCCI Icon
60 Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka- 1000, Bangladesh

FBCCI Extended Office, Gulshan
Tower of Aakash, Level-9, Plot-54, Road-132, Gulshan Avenue, Dhaka-1212,

Phone : 88-02-223380588, 223381470

Fax: 88-02-223355902

E-mail: secretariat@fbcci.org
Website: www.fbcci.org