

Bangladesh High Commission
Canberra

Press Release

Western Australian Government to support Bangladesh for Export Product Development

Western Australian Minister for Agriculture and Food; Forestry; the Midwest and Wheatbelt, The Hon Kim M Chance MLC expressed the readiness of his government to explore the possibility with Bangladesh for Export Product Development such as blending of wool with jute for fabric and production of paper from special type of Australian timber for labeling purposes. He also indicated their readiness to work with Bangladesh and France for manufacturing of fabric with wool and jute. This was discussed during the meeting between the Minister and Bangladesh High Commissioner H.E. Mr. M. Humayun Kabir who met the Minister yesterday (21 August 2006) in Perth.

The Minister also indicated that they would be interested to explore the possibility of engaging skilled and semi-skilled manpower from Bangladesh particularly in the category of machine mechanics, heavy equipment operators and electrical maintenance workers. The Minister felt that Bangladesh could also explore the possibility of exporting agricultural farm equipment to Australia.

On his part, Bangladesh High Commissioner welcomed the positive approach of the Western Australian government for more robust economic cooperation between Bangladesh and Australia. In this context, the High Commissioner sought the support and leadership of the Minister in promoting common interests between Bangladesh and Australia with particular emphasis on increased volume of balanced trade, more Australian investment in Bangladesh, sharing of knowledge and technology and creating more opportunities for Bangladeshi manpower in Australia. The Minister reciprocated the sentiments and promised to continue to work towards expansion of economic cooperation between the two countries.

Mr. Md. Restadul Islam, Commercial Counsellor of Bangladesh High Commission, Mr. Graham Droppert, Honorary Consul General of Bangladesh in Perth, Mr. Micheal McMullan, Chief of Staff to the Minister and Mr. Besko Trhulj, Manager, Food and Trade of the Department of Agriculture, Government of Western Australia were present in the meeting.

22 August 2006