

## **Japanese Business Delegation**

Statement by

**HE Sheikh Hasina**

Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh

6 September 2014, Saturday, PMO, Dhaka

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Bismillahir Rahmanir Rahim

Your Excellency Prime Minister Shinzo Abe,  
Distinguished Members of the Business Delegation from Japan.

Assalamu Alaikum and A very good afternoon to you all.

It gives me great pleasure today to receive such a high-level business delegation from Japan. During my talks with your visionary Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, we have decided to carry forward the Comprehensive Partnership between our two countries, agreed during our talks in Tokyo last May.

This Partnership is aimed at encompassing wide-ranging economic cooperation among other things, and the private sector is likely to play a key role in this endeavour.

Today, as you are accompanying Prime Minister Abe, I believe that the comprehensive engagement is moving towards a bright future.

I thank you for considering Bangladesh as your next possible destination for extensive investment and business.

Within the framework of a market economy, Bangladesh stands amongst the first forty-four economies in the world, both in terms of size of GDP and foreign currency reserve.

With about 160 million people and a rapidly growing middle class, there is an increasing domestic demand for consumer goods and services.

Bangladesh offers a young, industrious workforce with comparatively lower wages. It has proven export competitiveness by offering most competitive fiscal and non-fiscal investment incentives and the most liberal FDI regime in South Asia.

Foreign investment in Bangladesh is secured by law, which also ensures no discrimination between local and foreign investors.

Dear Friends,

We encourage private sector investors from Japan to visit Bangladesh and be acquainted with the investment opportunities here.

We are working towards the establishment of an Exclusive Economic Zone in Bangladesh only for Japanese investors. We have investment potentials in the sectors like textiles, leather, petro-chemicals, pharmaceuticals, ship-building, agro-based industries, light engineering and electronics, telecommunications and IT.

Specifically, we expect Japanese investment in high-tech manufacturing like automobiles and micro-processors. We have also adopted Public Private Partnership (PPP) policy for building infrastructure projects.

The Joint Bangladesh-Japan Public Private Economic Dialogue which has just concluded its first meeting in Dhaka has suggested various measures to facilitate Japanese investment in Bangladesh.

I am confident that the Japanese industrialists would come forward to take full advantage of our prevailing investment opportunities.

Let us work together towards peaceful, progressive and prosperous economies to fulfill the aspirations of the peoples of our two great Asian nations.

I thank you all.

Khoda Hafez  
Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu  
May Bangladesh Live Forever.

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