

## Ideas to Improve Bangladesh's Industrial Policy and Trade

- Establishment of new electricity plants for industrial units.
- Strengthen physical infrastructure of custom points and port facilities.
- Formulation of a 3-in-1 trade policy - industrial, investment and commercial issues.
- Market diversification through South-South cooperation - India, China and other non-traditional destinations.
- Export product diversification - ceramics, leather, agro food processing, IT products, etc.
- Reduce lending rates for exporters.
- Financial and technical support for startups.
- Identifying SMEs' niches to hone on their comparative advantages.
- Collection and analysis of SME industry related information.
- Target public investment to infrastructural facilities, energy, and technology.
- Ensure responsive basic business services by the government.
- Design a differentiated system of indirect tax for the SMEs.
- Enhance SMEs access to imported inputs.
- Increase public expenditure to augment the purchasing power of the rural people - SMEs sustainability.
- Creation of a SME database to assess growth potentials of diverse SMEs and enable proper targeting of SME credit.
- Enhance flow of credit to manufacturing SMEs.
- Provide compulsory, state funded education up to the age of fourteen.
- Implement an M&E system for the assessment of progress through South-South cooperation.
- Provide partially state-funded, compulsory higher secondary education up to the age of 18 or 19 Strengthen institutional capacity to impart appropriate technical and vocational education in close association with potential employers.
- More donor supported match-making opportunities targeting the IT industry.
- Reduction of sensitive lists by the SAFTA (South Asian Free Trade Agreement) member countries.
- Effective use of the duty-free aces for Bangladeshi exports to the Indian market.
- Building broad gauge railway links to provide transit to Nepal and Bhutan.
- Utilization and monitoring of US\$ 1.0 billion Indian credit line.
- Learning from success stories of South particularly in government procurement and government performance monitoring.
- Set up specialized economic zones (SEZs) to attract FDI in new sectors such as light engineering (bicycle and electronic products), IT products, pharmaceuticals and shipbuilding.
- Complement energy options from domestic sources with energy trade.
- Undertake massive investment in transport and logistics infrastructure.

- Expand power and energy trade with India.
- Explore hydro-power import opportunities with Nepal and Bhutan.
- Increase use of Mongla Port.
- Ensure women's participation trade fairs through quotas and monetary incentives.
- Linking Khulna and Mongla with Dhaka and Chittagong directly by rail using the Padma Bridge.
- Construction of a deep sea port for handling of coal and other imports at Sonadia, Chittagong.
- Invest and build leather industry as complement to RMG.
- Invest and build shrimp farming industry.
- Invest and build ship building industry.
- SARC Free trade agreement.
- Invest and build textile industry as complement to RMG.
- Invest and build shoe industry as complement to RMG.
- Manufacture royalty free medicine to export to US.
- More special economic zones for RMG.
- Improve working conditions to boost productivity.
- Preserve and maintain tourist spots for augmenting services export earnings.
- Universal preferential arrangements in developed country markets.
- Making rules of origin (RoO) in GSP schemes LDC friendly.
- Expedite WTO Doha Round trade negotiations.
- Building sanitary and phytosanitary measures (SPS) compliance capacity.
- Use Aid for Trade (Aft) for export diversification.
- Use Aft for trade-related capacity-building.
- Making IT industry the next RMG.
- Operationalize BBIN's Motor Vehicle Agreement.