

# Major Chamber Events 2005

## *Meeting with the Hon'ble Prime Minister*

A delegation from the Chamber headed by its President, Mr. Kutubuddin Ahmed along with some of the former Presidents called on the Hon'ble Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, M.P., at her office on the 4th May 2005. The delegation discussed the following issues with the Prime Minister concerning the economic interest of the country:

- Increase in Bank interest rates
- Liquidity crises in the banking sector
- Continuation of Tax Holiday scheme which was supposed to be terminated on the 30th June, 2005, and
- National minimum wages

The Prime Minister appreciated the Chamber's concern on the above issues.

## Meeting with the Hon'ble Finance Minister

The Chamber Committee met the Hon'ble Finance Minister Mr. M. Saifur Rahman, M.P., at his office on the 27th June, 2005 and discussed the following points:

- Budget for 2005 – 2006
- Suppliers Credit
- Increase in Bank interest rates, and
- Capital market: IPO

## Meeting with the Hon'ble Minister for Foreign Affairs

The Chamber Committee met the Hon'ble Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. M. Morshed Khan M.P., at his office on the 15th January, 2005 and donated books worth Taka one lac for the library of the Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi, India

## Visit – Chittagong Port

A Chamber delegation headed by the President, Mr. Kutubuddin Ahmed visited the Chittagong Port on the 12th January, 2005 and met the Chairman and other senior officials of the Chittagong Port Authority to discuss relevant issues pertaining to enhancing the operational efficiency of the Chittagong Port and also privatization of some parts of the port services.

## Visit by Chinese Delegation

A 11-member Chinese Government Economic and Trade Delegation headed by H.E. Mr. Wang Chao, the first Vice-Governor of Dehong Dai and Jingpo Autonomous Prefecture, Yunnan Province, China visited the Chamber on the 8th June 2005. The delegation discussed the matters relating to trade between Bangladesh and China.

#### Meeting with the Governor, Bangladesh Bank

A delegation from the Chamber met the Governor, Bangladesh Bank on the 9th July, 2005 to discuss the issue of US Dollar scarcity in the market which was distorting the trade and commerce in the country. The delegation also handed over a strategy paper suggesting possible steps to be taken by the Central Bank to stabilize the market.

#### Meeting with the Minister for Commerce

The Minister for Commerce Air Vice-Marshal (Retd.) Altaf Hussain Choudhury visited the Chamber on the 30th August, 2005. The Chamber made the Minister aware regarding the impact of price hike of essential commodities and suggested tentative remedial measures including steps to be taken to boost country's export.

#### Chamber Delegation's visit to Yunnan Province

A 10-member delegation visited Yunnan Province, People's Republic of China from the 10th to 17th December, 2005 at the invitation of the Vice Governor, Dehong Prefecture, Yunnan Province