**Report on 13th SAARC Trade fair**

The inaugural ceremony of the 13th SAARC Trade fair scheduled from 08-12 September 2016 was held at changlimithang, Thimphu, Bhutan in front of the fair ground at 2:30 P.M.
In the inaugural Ceremony Mr. Lyonopo lekey Dorji Hon’ble Minister for Economic Affairs, Royal Government of Bhutan was chief guest. Besides the Hon’ble chief guest Mr. Shambhu Koirala, Director General, Ministry of Commerce, Nepal, was present. Welcome address by Phub Zam, President Bhutan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI). Also address by Dr. Sunil Motiwal, Chief Executive officer, SAARC Development Fund. On behalf of Bangladesh Mr. Anisur Rahman, Counsellor, Bangladesh Embassy, Bhutan was Present. After the ceremony Mr. Lyonopo lekey Dorji Hon’ble Minister for Economic Affairs, Royal Government of Bhutan visited Bangladeshi stall including EPB stall and comments on comment book. In 5th day of the fair the Hon’ble Prime Minister Royal Govt. of Bhutan visited the fair as well as Bangladeshi stalls and he shown interest Bangladeshi products.
In the 13th SAARC Trade fair only 04 (Four) SAARC member countries was participated like Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and India.
In this fair a total of 177 companies, including 11 from Bangladesh, 52 from India, 82 from Nepal and 32 from Bhutan took part. 11 Bangladeshi companies Participated In the 13th SAARC Trade fair, Bhutan. Out of the11 companies 09 companies under EPB banner and rest 02 own initiatives.
H.E. the Ambassador of Bangladesh in Bhutan Personally initiatives to linkup some major Bhutanese company executives with Participating company representatives at the fair ground. H.E. the Ambassador of Bangladesh visited Bangladeshi stall several time .
4 B to B meeting were held at a hotel with 4 Bangladeshi company representatives. 09 Bangladeshi Companies received 4 month trail order: 49,940 US Dollar and potential order 374,000 US Dollar. Personally participating two companies Received 4 month trail order 19,000 US Dollar and potential order 26,000 US Dollar.
In future Bangladesh may be participate in next fair in Bhutan with various Industrial products i.e [bakery, toiletries, pharmaceuticals, plastic, ceramics, melamine, metal & building materials & readymade garments (stock lot)] have demand in Bhutan market. Bhutan is potential for us.