

Ershad visited Canada in October 1987 to attend the Commonwealth heads of Government meeting in Vancouver. During this visit Minister Clark hosted a luncheon for the President to meet prominent Canadian businessmen.

In September 1987, a new five year bilateral restraint agreement concerning five categories of garment and textile products was reached. Full account was taken by Canada of Bangladesh's status as an LLDC, and Bangladesh accordingly received the highest growth rate for textile exports to Canada of any country with which we have reached an agreement. The annual growth in export restraint level range from 6% to 7.5%. In February 1988, a new restraint on sportswear was negotiated with Bangladesh. It provides annual growth rates of 6% for the balance of the arrangement.

Canada and Bangladesh have concluded bilateral negotiations on the text of a Foreign Investment Insurance Agreement. Signature of this agreement will take place in Dhaka after the preparation of a Bangla language text of the agreement.

COMMERCE

Canadian exports to Bangladesh totalled \$127.1 million in 1988. Imports from Bangladesh were \$30.4 million.

Canadian exports to Bangladesh are largely financed under CIDA bilateral and food aid programs (90% in 1988). Although wheat shipments to Bangladesh have declined in the past few years, they continue to account for more than half of total Canadian exports.

CANADIAN MARKETING OPPORTUNITIES

- 1) Oil and Gas Equipment and Services
- 2) Power and Energy Equipment and Services
- 3) Grains and Oilseeds
- 4) Telecommunications Equipment and Services

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