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Bangladesh requests Trump administration to allow DFQF access to US market

Bangladesh Tuesday made a renewed appeal to the new administration of US President Donald J. Trump to consider duty free quota free (DFQF) access to the American market.

Bangladesh Ambassador to the United States Mohammad Ziauddin made the request during a meeting with US Republican Senator Roger Wicker in Washington D.C. Senator Wicker of Mississippi is a member on the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee of the U.S. Senate.

While congratulating the Senator on the historic win of the Republican Party in the U.S. Presidential Election, along with the House of Representatives and the Senate elections, the Ambassador evinced keen interest of the Bangladesh Government to work with the new U.S. administration to further broaden and deepen the close bilateral ties of Bangladesh and the United States.

Ambassador Ziauddin requested the U.S. government to consider DFQF access of all Least Developed Countries' products to the U.S. market. Currently, only 34 countries (all African LDCs) out of 48 LDCs, are benefited from the U.S. DFQF access. Therefore, the Ambassador noted that there is a sense of deprivation among the rest of the LDCs (mostly Asian and Oceanic) that seek justice from the U.S. which is the champion of democracy, human rights and rule of law.

The Ambassador told the Senator that if the U.S. government provides DFQF access to Bangladeshi products, it would help the country to be economically strong by exporting more products, especially from the RMG sector, where more than four million women are working at present. Consequently, it would help empower the Bangladeshi women to change society by contributing to alleviation of poverty and curb the menace of extremism. The Ambassador mentioned Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's "zero tolerance" stance against all forms of extremism and terrorism in Bangladesh and beyond. He also mentioned the existing counter terrorism cooperation of Bangladesh with the US, India and other neighbouring countries.

Senator Wicker gave a patient and sympathetic hearing to the Ambassador and thanked him for the briefing. The Senator said that he would seriously look into the matter of DFQF issue. Mr. Joseph Lai, Senior Legislative Assistant of the Congressman and Mr. Toufique Hasan, Minister (Political) of the Embassy were present.



Bangladesh Ambassador to the United States Mohammad Ziauddin met US Republican Senator Roger Wicker in Washington D.C.