

Welcome Speech by Mr. Md. Sabur Khan DCCI President at the Annual Dinner for Government Partners of BUILD

Venue: Marble Room, Ruposhi Bangla Hotel

Date: 31st March 2013

Time: 6:30 PM

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- **Mr. Shaikh Md. Wahid-Uz-Zaman**, Principal Secretary, PMO, Government of Bangladesh
 - **Distinguished Secretaries**, Senior officials of the Government
 - **Mr. Kazi Akram Uddin Ahmed**, President, FBCCI (not confirmed yet)
 - **Mr Asif Ibrahim, Chairman**, BUILD
 - **DCCI Past Presidents**, My Colleagues in the DCCI Board
 - **Ms. Rokia Afzal Rahman**, President, MCCI and Board Members of MCCI
 - **Distinguished Board Members** of SME Foundations
 - **Senior Officials** of BUILD and other representatives of BUILD's Partners

Assalamu- Alaikum and Good Evening

It is a matter of great honor and privilege to welcome you all to the Annual Dinner for Government Partners of Business Initiative Leading Development (BUILD) which is playing as Public Private Dialogue (PPD) Platform initiated by Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry (DCCI) in partnership with MCCI and SME Foundation.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Principal Secretary, Prime Minister's Office for his kind presence in the meeting which is a testimony on how government is giving importance to Public Private Partnership institutions like BUILD.

We are thankful to the government officials that you have managed your time to be with us in this Annual Dinner hosted by BUILD.

I am happy to see the presence of President, FBCCI –the apex Chamber in the country which is an encouragement of all of us in the BUILD.

I would like to thank Representatives of BUILD's partners for their continuous support for the cause of BUILD.

Ladies and Gentlemen

I would like to start my speech with a brief introduction on BUILD

As has been mentioned earlier BUILD is a joint initiative of DCCI, MCCI and SME Foundation to assist in the development of Bangladesh's private sector and thus unlock Bangladesh's true development potential.

BUILD is the Government's key strategic partner in private sector development to provide the government and the private sector a Platform through which both sides can work together and address the key constraints that are impeding the growth of the private sector and the nation's ambitious growth targets. BUILD will be the voice of the private sector and will interface with the government to address the issues of the private sector, and thereby ensure an environment that is conducive to business growth.

BUILD will focus in making concrete changes to help Bangladesh to grow. It will do this by ensuring that the Government undertakes the most effective business reforms, as demonstrated by intensive research and analysis. The organization will continuously measure the development impacts of its work, by studying the investment unlocked and the jobs created through relevant interventions. Finally, BUILD is not a temporary initiative – this platform will be a continual process to focus on long-term sustainability so that it can work with the government as well as the private sector in making a positive change to happen.

This task is not so simple, in bringing full success and to spur business supportive reforms, facilitating trade and investment we need more and more partnership and sharing knowledge.

I would like to take the benefits of this gathering to call upon to extend all support to this new-build organization so that in the coming years it can come up with effective reform proposals for implementation and thus attains sustainable investments in key factors of the economy.

Honorable Guests

BUILD has passed one year and since its establishment it has devoted its endeavor in several research works to make some prudential policy recommendation. The main focus of BUILD research is based on present government's Vision 2021, calls for Bangladesh to become a middle income country (MIC) by the year 2021.

The fundamental requirement for the attainment of economic targets and a stable economic growth is to have a holistic action plan with a commensurate participation of both private and public sector. BUILD could be that holistic identity for Bangladesh. In fact BUILD is designed to pursue that purpose. So far BUILD has been able to achieve some success in its short life span and it has proved its efficiency and dedication in achieving its targets.

In many countries such as Malaysia this type of organization is already a success story. It is high time for us to have a similar type of organization to serve the purpose of combining public private interest. The journey has just started and will have to go a long way, in this long journey we would expect full cooperation from all concerned, especially from the Government officials and leading private sector bodies so that we attain the standard of all successful countries where PPD mechanism worked under joint initiative of public private sector.

Ladies and Gentlemen

I appreciate all the supports from the Government side to the private sector and would expect this team work to continue in future to ensure a fully workable PPD Platform for exploiting untapped potentials of the sector.

Mr. Md. Sabur Khan

President, DCCI