## A true friend contributing to Bangladesh economy

Golam Shahnee

Kihak Sung, a legendary global entrepreneur and chairman of the world's largest garments manufacturer Youngone Corporation, is the true friend of Bangladesh, who has been contributing tremendously to the development of the country's largest export earner apparel sector since immediately after the Independence of Bangladesh in 1971.

A Korean national though, Kihak Sung is no less than a Bangladeshi in mind and soul who has engaged most of his time here and made majority investment in this country through setting up the largest garment industry at the Dhaka Export Processing Zone (DEPZ) and also setting up Korean Export Processing Zone (KEPZ), the first and lone private level establishment.

His immense love for Bangladesh that he has been holding in his heart can no way be faded even after long four decades. The way he supported the country's apparel industry to grow since its very initial stage after the Liberation War is still continuing through his good care for the growth of Bangladesh's textiles industry.

Recently, he visited Bangladesh along with a high-level delegation of

international apparel buyers to provide constant support for ensuring overall improvement of the apparel industry for attaining sustainable development and networking globally.

As president of International Textiles Manufacturers Federation (ITMF) -- an international forum for the world's textiles industries, Kihak has made a good gesture to help Bangladesh's apparel industry grow further to a new height and had several meetings with the government high-ups concerned as well as industry people including BGMEA and BKMEA.

While talking to Bangladesh Post at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Dhaka on Sunday, Kihak Sung said ITMF is interested to assist Bangladesh for overall improvement of the apparel and textiles industry for attaining sustainable development and networking globally.

Mentioning that ITMF is a big global platform for textiles and apparel manufacturers for raising their problems and prospects, Kihak Sung said he has invited Bangladeshi entrepreneurs to attend the upcoming international conference of ITMF scheduled in Portugal in October 2019



Kihak Sung, chairman of Youngone Corporation, poses with a copy of Bangladesh Post at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Dhaka on Sunday.

Since Bangladesh is the world's second largest apparel exporter, ITMF has shown interests to work with the international garments buyers' community for resolving all problems that the industry is facing at present, Kihak Sung said.

Mentioning that the Bangladeshi media has always remained sincere to cooperate with him in establishing his business here that generated huge employments for the local people, he thanked Bangladesh Post, and recalling his memories with its Editor-in-Chief Sharif Shahabuddin, he said: "I earlier received very good cooperation from the editor of this daily." Kihak Sung highly appreciated Bangladesh Post for the quality of its news and unique presentation and expected that this national English daily would be able to contribute a

lot to the growth of the country's economy through promoting industrial sector, trade and commerce. Meanwhile, in a meeting with the leaders of BGMEA (Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and exporters Association) at BGMEA Bhaban on Sunday, the delegation members assured of providing necessary support to the Bangladesh apparel industry.