

Staff Reporter

Twenty-seven of 53 Bangladesh missions abroad have failed to achieve their respective export targets for the first quarter (July-Sept) of the current fiscal (2014-15).

The key Bangladesh missions like the ones in Washington, Berlin, London, Paris, Ottawa, Rome and the Hague have failed to achieve their July-September export targets while some other important missions -- Stockholm, Brussels, Tokyo, Canberra and New Delhi -- have been able to reach their targets for the three-month period.

The overall export earnings for the period amounted to \$ 7,695.10 million against the strategic target of \$ 8004.52 million, showing a fall of 3.87 percent over the strategic target.

Of the 53 Bangladesh missions, 26 met their respective export targets for the period, according to the latest statistics provided by the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB).

The 26 well-performing missions are in Stockholm, Brussels, Tokyo, Canberra, New Delhi, Dubai, Brasilia, Mexico City, Pretoria, Lisbon, Tehran, Cairo, Islamabad, Athens, Amman, Manila, Muscat, Yangon, Nairobi, Tashkent, Beirut, Rabat, Manama, Thimpu, Male and Brunei. Of the 27 missions that could not achieve their targets for the first quarter of the current fiscal, exports still marked a rise for 11 of them over the corresponding period of the last fiscal (2013-14). These missions are in Berlin, London, Madrid, Rome, Beijing, Singapore, Hanoi, Moscow, Port Luis, Baghdad and Kuala Lumpur.

However, 16 missions - Paris, Washington, Ottawa, The Hague, Ankara, Seoul, Hong Kong, Riyadh, Jakarta, Geneva, Bangkok, Kuwait, Colombo, Doha, Katmondu and Tripoli - saw exports decline during the July-September period of the current fiscal compared to the same period of the last fiscal (2013-14).

The EPB figures revealed that out of the 17 Bangladesh missions having commercial wings, only seven have achieved their export targets while 10 others could not achieve their respective targets.

The seven missions with commercial wings, which achieved their respective export target, are in Brussels, Tokyo, Canberra, New Delhi, Dubai, Yangon and Tehran.

Although the remaining 10 commercial wings could not achieve the target, the earnings of six of them still saw increase over the 2013-14 fiscal. These are in Berlin, London, Madrid, Beijing, Moscow and Kualalampur.

The 26 Bangladesh missions that succeeded in achieving their targets for the July-September period of the current fiscal accounted for \$ 1,450.8 million while the export earnings of the remaining 27 missions, which failed to achieve their target, totalled \$ 6074.24 million.

The highest earnings over the three-month period, some \$ 1,358.05 million - almost one-fifth of total exports - were registered by the Washington mission, followed by the mission in Berlin which accounted for \$ 1,385.25 million and London \$ 828.88 million. The strong showing from EU member states continued with the Madrid mission fetching \$ 423.39 million during the July-September period.

The next was the Bangladesh mission in Italy, which earned almost \$ 324.59 million, followed by missions in Ottawa and The Hague, with approximately \$ 251.70 million and \$ 359.38 million respectively. The New Delhi mission managed to fetch only \$ 143.95 million.