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**REMARKS BY
U.S. AMBASSADOR TO BANGLADESH DAN MOZENA
SUPER PETROCHEMICALS**

**Press Event
October 6, 2012**

Super Group Managing Director Salim Ahmed
Super Group Board members, management team and workers
Colleagues and Good Friends of Robust Chittagong

Salim, thank you so much for inviting me to visit your exciting new facility ... and for giving me a good excuse for coming back to Chittagong yet again. I imagine that most Chittagonians have already figured out that I quite enjoy visiting Bangladesh's second largest city, the nation's gateway to the world.

My friends in Dhaka ask me why I keep going to Chittagong. The answer is simple: A lot is happening in Chittagong ... important progress is being made here in building the new Bangladesh, the Middle-Income Bangladesh, the Sonar Bangladesh.

This morning I visited the construction site of Super Petrochemicals, which soon will produce for the first time ever in Bangladesh petroleum-based industrial solvents and other key precursor chemicals that are essential for many products, including paint. Once this facility is operational, what a change it will make in enabling Bangladeshi industries to compete more effectively in the global market!

I am pleased that a U.S. engineering firm Chemex has coordinated the design and construction of this new world-class facility ... and that much of the advanced technology and equipment for this plant comes from America. This partnership between American business and Bangladeshi business promotes growth and jobs in both countries. This is truly a win-win for America and Bangladesh. I believe that such partnership can contribute hugely to developing Bangladesh's industrial sector.

Super Petrochemicals is my first stop in Chittagong to see how things are going as Bangladesh readies itself to become the next Asian Tiger. Later today, we are going to Western Marine to see yet another remarkable achievement: world class shipbuilding right here in Bangladesh. Western Marine freighters already ply the Baltic Sea, and I understand that America's Great Lakes are the next target for marketing the freighters.

I have to tell you a story that shows how fundamentally things are changing in Bangladesh. Before I came to Bangladesh as ambassador, I was a professor at the National War College in Washington. In May last year, I led a group of my War College students to Bangladesh. As we were preparing for the trip, some helpful person at our Embassy in Dhaka sent me a draft schedule for the visit. When I reviewed the schedule, I noticed a typo ... the schedule said we were going to visit a shipbuilding yard in Chittagong. I immediately sent an email pointing out that the schedule should say that we would be visiting a ship breaking yard, not a shipbuilding one, as Bangladesh did not build ships. You can imagine how shocked I was when I discovered that Bangladesh had indeed become a ship builder nation!

Tomorrow we are going to discover more of the emerging Asian Tiger when we visit the Chittagong EPZ, where we will visit a company making shafts for American golf clubs and another company that is a subsidiary of an American company that manufactures top premium terry towels. These two companies are further examples of how the partnership between American business and Bangladeshi business can work to the benefit of both.

Tomorrow we will also visit Chittagong Port and the new container terminal Incontrade to see for ourselves the important work being done to expand port capacity, which is critical if Bangladesh is to become an Asian Tiger. The current ports are simply inadequate to handle the two-way flow of trade that would accompany Bangladesh's being an Asian Tiger.

Over past days and recent months, there have been some major steps to address other obstacles to building Sonar Bangladesh.

In July, Chevron, Bangladesh's largest foreign investor, announced that it would invest another half billion dollars in Bangladesh to increase natural gas production. This massive new foreign investment, the largest in Bangladesh's history, will help Bangladesh overcome continuing power and energy shortfalls.

Last week, Jeff Immelt, Chairman of General Electric, the world's third largest company, visited Bangladesh for the first time. I'm told that he was the highest powered business leader ever to visit Bangladesh. I was pleased that during Chairman Immelt's visit, GE signed two more contracts that will provide over 650 MW of additional power, power that is vital to building a Middle-Income Bangladesh.

In addition, another leading American company, ConocoPhillips, is hard at work exploring for gas in the Bay of Bengal. I'm pleased to see these American companies helping Bangladesh address the challenges of becoming an Asian tiger.

As America's ambassador to Bangladesh, I am often asked to bring American investors to Bangladesh. My response is always the same: investors will come to Bangladesh when it makes business sense to come to Bangladesh, not because some ambassador has told them to go to Bangladesh. Jeff Immelt's visit here last week is a powerful signal to business around the

world that GE, one of the world's finest and most admired companies, has now decided that it makes sense to come to Bangladesh.

Selim, thank you again for your gracious hospitality and for your most impressive work in building this new plant. I hope you are deeply proud of the leading role that you and your company are playing in creating Asia next economic tiger, the Royal Bengal Tiger.

Thank you.

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**As prepared for delivery*