

**TWO DAY WORKSHOP ON “THE AGREEMENT ON TRIPS, FOCUSING ON LDCS’ EXEMPTION: GENERAL AND PHARMACEUTICALS” HELD DURING 23<sup>RD</sup> AND 24<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2016 IN BANGLADESH FOREIGN TRADE INSTITUTE.**

A two day workshop on “The Agreement on TRIPS, Focusing on LDCs’ Exemption: General and Pharmaceuticals” was arranged during the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> August, 2016 in Bangladesh Foreign Trade Institute under the National Activity Program of the WTO. The workshop was inaugurated by the honorable Senior Secretary, the Ministry of Commerce, Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh Mr. Hedayetullah Al Mamoon, ndc. More than twenty participants from both the public and the private sector took part in the workshop. Mrs. Jayashree Watal, Counselor, IP Division of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and Mr. Md. Daniul Islam, Counsellor, Division for Least-Developed Countries, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) conducted the sessions. With the active participation of the participants from both the public and the private sectors the workshop became a lively one. Esteemed learned speakers (trainers) shared their vast knowledge on the mentioned topic and the participants did also respond spontaneously to make the workshop a success.

On the second day at the last session a round table discussion was held. Both the guest-speakers, Director General, WTO Cell, Ministry of Commerce Mr. Shubhashish Bose, Chief Executive Officer, the Bangladesh Foreign Trade Institute Mr. Ali Ahmed, Director Bangladesh Foreign Trade Institute and ex-Director General, WTO Cell, Ministry of Commerce Mr. Amitava Chakraborty and the representatives from Beximco Pharmaceuticals and Incepta Pharmaceuticals took part in the round table discussion. Learned discussants enlightened the participants by rendering their knowledge and experience based discussion on the topic.

This workshop would certainly play an important role in capacity building of both the public and the private sector.