

NRB Home Loan Dilemma

As a Bangladeshi one can get a home loan from any Bangladeshi Bank with 20 to 30% equity. But as soon as he or she crosses the border and become a Non Resident Bangladeshi (NRB) things change. As a NRB one has to have 100% cash equity invested in Wage Earner's Bond to get a home loan in Bangladesh. This is not only unfair it simply doesn't make any sense. If one has the money why would he or she go to the bank for a loan!

Mr. Mark Barkat, Managing Director of Sydney Real Estate Development and Management Corporation (agent of Janata Bank in Australia) decided to do something about it. He went all the way to the governor of Bangladesh Bank. Mr Barkat had a meeting with Dr. Atiur Rahman (Governor, Bangladesh Bank) on 24 August 2010 at the Governor's Office in Dhaka about the NRB home loan issue. Present NRB home loan equity ratio was



discussed with the governor. A 30:70 or less equity ratio was suggested. Dr. Atiur Rahman took the matter seriously and instructed Md. Ahsan Ullah, Executive Director of Bangladesh Bank, to review the matter urgently.

From left: Dr. Atiur Rahman, Governor of Bangladesh Bank, Mr. Mark Barkat, Managing Director of SREDMCL, Advocate Md. Delwar Hossain Khan, Advisor of SREDMCL.