



FOREIGN OFFICE BRIEFING NOTES

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Hon'ble Prime Minister Attended International Conference on Women in Islam in Jeddah



Condemning the Israeli atrocities committed against innocent women and children in Gaza, Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina called upon all parties to ensure humanitarian access and an immediate ceasefire in Gaza during delivering a statement at the Opening Ceremony of the International Conference on Women in Islam: Status and Empowerment held on 06 November 2023 in Jeddah, KSA. Reaffirming Bangladesh's commitment to remain united for an independent and sovereign State of Palestine, the Hon'ble Prime

Minister expressed her steadfast commitment to do her part on behalf of the Palestinian brothers and sisters. Hon'ble Prime Minister attended the Conference as Guest of Honor as a global recognition of her exemplary role in women empowerment. She spoke about women empowerment locally and globally and expressed Bangladesh's readiness to share her experience in enhancing the opportunities of Muslim women in particular.

On the sideline of the Opening Ceremony of the Conference, the HH

Prince Faisal bin Farhan, Hon'ble Foreign Minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, H.E. Hissein Brahim Taha, OIC Secretary-General, H.E. Ms. Ensieh Khaz'ali, Hon'ble Vice-President of the Iran for Women and Family Affairs, and Dr. Afnan Alshuaiby, OIC Women Development Organization (WDO) Executive Director called on the Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh, separately. This three-day long Conference aims at shedding light on the successes of Muslim women and promote women empowerment in Muslim societies.

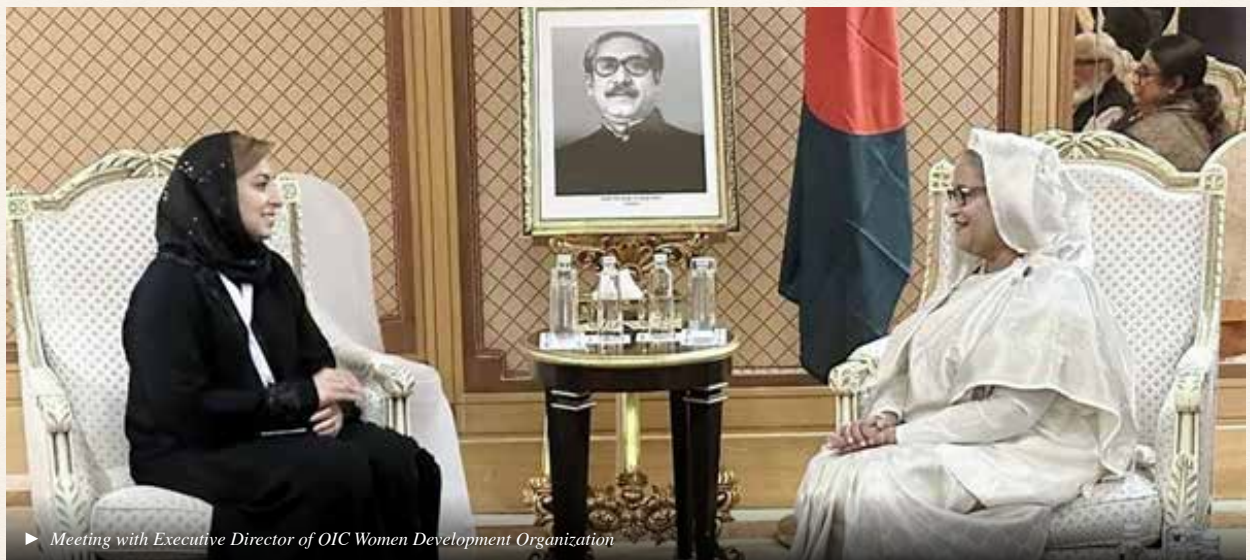




► Meeting with OIC Secretary-General



► Meeting with Vice-President of Iran for Women and Family Affairs



► Meeting with Executive Director of OIC Women Development Organization



Hon'ble Prime Minister Participated at 2nd Voice of Global South Summit in Virtually



India hosted the 2nd Voice of Global South Summit in virtual format as part of the G20 summit on 17 November 2023. Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh H.E. Sheikh Hasina participated in the Summit at the invitation of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India H.E. Shri Narendra Modi. In the Summit, the Hon'ble Prime Minister emphasized resolving the conflicts in different parts of the world for the welfare of the people of the world. She presented proposals to the leaders of the Global South

participating in the Summit, such as unity of the Global South against sanctions and counter-sanctions, empowering women, taking initiatives to prevent global temperature rise, integrating migration into the development process and allowing duty-free, quota-free access and other facilities to countries in transition from least developed countries for a good period and after their graduation. Meanwhile the Hon'ble Foreign Minister participated in the Foreign Ministerial Session of the

summit on 17 November 2023. He thanked the Government of India for highlighting the issues of the Global South during G20. Besides, in his speech, he emphasized on regional peace and stability, dealing with the challenges arising from instability and conflict in different parts of the world, continuing tariff and quota-free benefits to the transition countries from least developed countries, preventing global temperature rise, climate financing and technology transfer.

Hon'ble Prime Minister Attended Virtual G-20 Leaders' Summit-2023

Hon'ble Prime Minister H.E. Sheikh Hasina participated in the Virtual G-20 Leaders' Summit-2023 held on 22 November 2023 at the invitation of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India H.E. Shri Narendra Modi. Among the other G20 member countries

and guest countries, Heads of State/ Heads of Governments of 23 countries including the Presidents of the United States, Russia and China, were also present in this Summit. During this Summit, Hon'ble Prime Minister congratulated Indian Prime Minister

H.E. Narendra Modi for successfully completing the G20 Presidency. In the Summit, Hon'ble Prime Minister highlighted the excellent economic achievements of Bangladesh during last 15 years. She called for a permanent ceasefire in



Gaza and uninterrupted humanitarian aid to the war victims in Gaza. She urged world leaders to say ‘No’ to

any kind of war for the overall welfare of the people of the world. She also urged for international support for

the early repatriation of Rohingyas to Myanmar.



CPG Delegation on Bangladesh at Scottish Parliament Called on Hon’ble Prime Minister

A 3-member Cross-Party Parliamentary Group (CPG) on Bangladesh at the Scottish Parliament led by its Convenor and Shadow Minister for Culture, Europe and International Development of Scotland Mr. Foysol Choudhury MSP visited Bangladesh from 18-26 November 2023. The other members

of the delegation included Deputy Convenor of CPG Mr. Miles Briggs MSP and Member of CPG Ms. Evelyn Tweed MSP. During the visit, the delegation paid courtesy call on the Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Hon'ble Speaker of the Bangladesh Parliament Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, MP,

Hon'ble Foreign Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud MP, Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Saber Hossain Chowdhury, MP and Hon'ble Mayor of Dhaka North City Corporation Atiqul Islam. They also visited Rohingya camps in Cox's Bazar and Sylhet during the visit.





Bangladesh Donated Medical Supplies to Sri Lanka



In a spirit of friendship and good neighborly relations as envisioned by Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Bangladesh decided to send a significant quantity of medical supplies worth of Bangladesh Taka 10 crores to Sri Lanka as a goodwill gesture. Hon'ble Foreign Minister Dr. A.K. Abdul Momen, MP handed over few boxes of medicine as a token to H.E. Mrs. Ruwanthi Delpitiya, the Acting High Commissioner of Sri Lanka at an event held on 02 November 2023 in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The event was also attended by Foreign Secretary (Senior Secretary) Ambassador Mr. Masud Bin Momen, and also high officials of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the Essential Drugs Company Limited (EDCL) and Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Hon'ble Foreign Minister, Dr. Momen, in his short remarks, termed the offer of medicine, as the expression of solidarity and friendship between Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. He added that under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Bangladesh always tries to assist any nation in difficulties in particular in neighbour. He stated that the cornerstone of our gesture is genuine goodwill and friendship. Dr. Momen assured that Bangladesh stands ready to support Sri Lanka in all possible ways. He expressed satisfaction on the way Sri Lanka has recovered from the economic crisis last year.

The Acting High Commissioner expressed her sincere gratitude to Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and the Government of Bangladesh for the support of supplying much needed medicine for the people of

Sri Lanka. She mentioned that the medical assistance to Sri Lankan people is a testimony of the strong and long standing friendship between Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. She appreciated that Bangladesh donated medical supplies to Sri Lanka last year at a time when Sri Lanka was in the midst of an economic downturn which was a great help for the people of Sri Lanka.

The supply of much needed medicine would certainly manifests capability of the pharmaceuticals industries in terms of its ability in producing high quality medicine. The medicines also demonstrate Bangladesh's foreign policy resolve of maintaining friendly and cooperative relations with her neighbors.

Earlier, Bangladesh supported Sri Lanka by providing medicine worth nearly Taka 20 crores in May 2022.



Hon'ble Foreign Minister Participated Joint Arab Islamic Extraordinary Summit in Riyadh



Hon'ble Foreign Minister of Bangladesh H.E. Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen, MP participated in the Joint Arab Islamic Extraordinary Summit held on 11 November 2023 in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia hosted this Summit in collaboration with the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and Arab League, to express unified position in condemning the brutal Israeli aggression against Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip, West Bank, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

The Crown Prince and Prime Minister, of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed Bin Salman Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud opened the Summit. Heads of the States/Governments/Representatives of the OIC and Arab League Member States, including Presidents of Iran, Iraq, Palestine, Syria, Turkiye, Egypt, Indonesia, Prime Minister of Pakistan, Emir of Qatar and the OIC Secretary-General, Arab League

Secretary-General and UNRWA Commissioner-General, attended the meeting.

The Joint Arab Islamic Extraordinary Summit adopted a resolution titled, 'Israeli Aggression against the Palestinian People'. The Leaders confirmed that they stand together against this aggression and the humanitarian catastrophe, and will work to stop it and put an end to all the illegal Israeli practices that perpetuate the occupation and deprive the Palestinian people of their rights, especially their right to freedom and an independent, sovereign state over their entire national territory.

The Summit's resolution rejected this retaliatory war as self-defense or justifying it under any pretext. The Leaders demanded all countries stop exporting weapons and ammunitions to the occupation authorities and also demanded to break the siege on Gaza and impose the entry of Arab, Islamic and international humanitarian aid convoys, including

food, medicine and fuel into the Gaza Strip immediately.

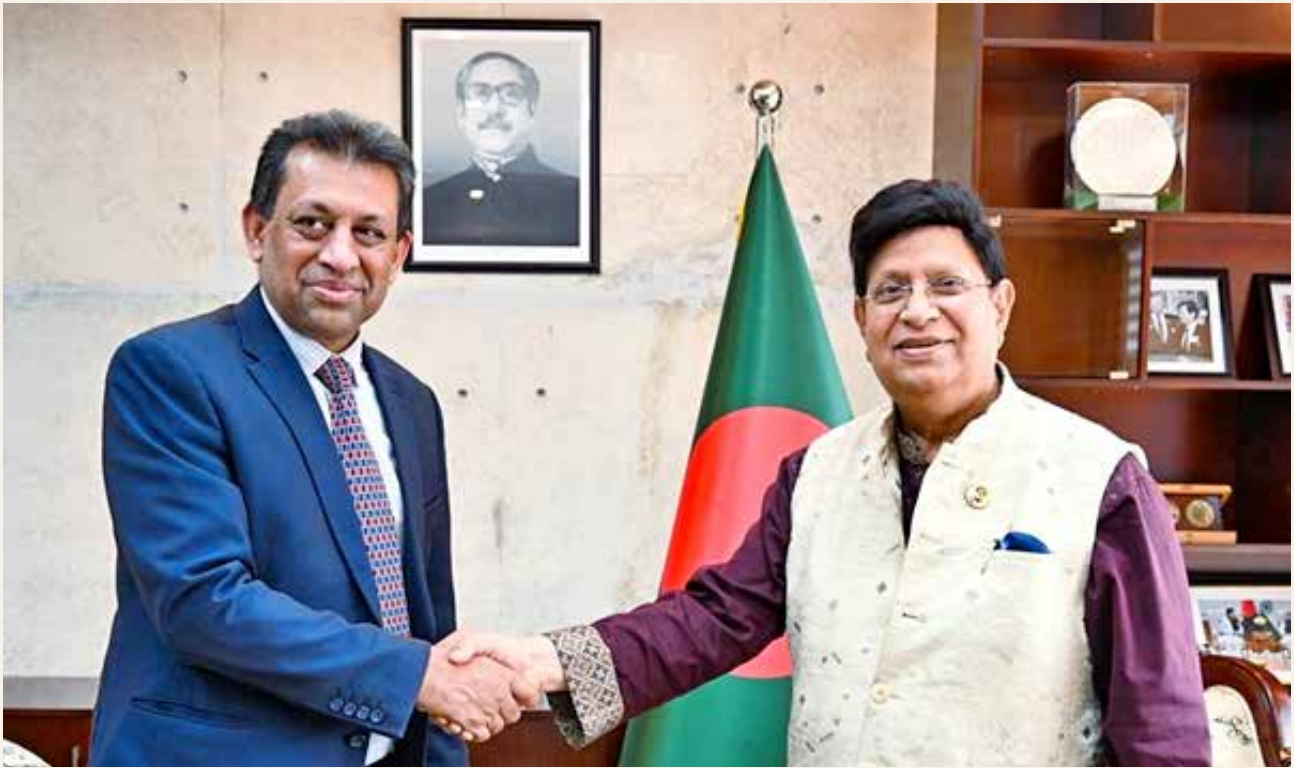
The resolution called on the UN Security Council to adopt a decisive and binding resolution that imposes a cessation of aggression and put an end to the practices of the colonial occupation authority that violates international law, international humanitarian law and international legitimacy resolutions.

The resolution denounced the double standards in the application of international law, and emphasized the need for the international community to act immediately to launch a serious and genuine peace process to achieve peace on the basis of the two-state solution.

Before the Summit, Foreign Minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia chaired a preparatory Ministerial Meeting to finalize the 'draft Resolution of the Joint Arab Islamic Extraordinary Summit' on 10-11 November 2023 in Riyadh, KSA.



Scottish Parliament Delegation Called on Hon'ble Foreign Minister



A delegation from the Cross-Party Group (CPG) on Bangladesh at the Scottish Parliament led by its Convenor and Shadow Minister for Culture, Europe and International Development of Scotland Mr. Foysol Choudhury MSP (Labour Party) called on Hon'ble Foreign Minister Dr. A.K. Abdul Momen, MP on 19 November 2023 at the latter's office. The other members of the delegation included, Deputy Convenor of CPG Mr. Miles Briggs MSP (Conservative Party), and Member of CPG Ms. Evelyn Tweed MSP (Scottish National Party).

The Hon'ble Foreign Minister appreciated CPG's special role to promote Bangladesh's political, economic and cultural relations with Scotland. He recalled Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's last visit to

the Scottish Parliament in November 2021 while attending the COP 26 in Glasgow and her talk at the Scottish Parliament. The CPG delegation highly commended Bangladesh's socio-economic development over the last decade, particularly expressed their appreciation in completing mega infrastructure projects like the Padma Multipurpose Bridge and Dhaka Metro Rail.

The CPG delegation underscored the importance of cooperation in climate actions, particularly as a follow-up to COP 26 held in 2021 in Glasgow. The Hon'ble Foreign Minister informed the CPG delegation that the government of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has always been the voice for climate justice of all the climate vulnerable countries, especially members of Climate

Vulnerable Forum (CVF). He narrated Bangladesh government's mitigation and adaptation measures, including establishment of a large housing project in Cox's Bazar for climate migrants as well as free housing with land ownership to the homeless and landless vulnerable people all over Bangladesh under Hon'ble Prime Minister's 'Ashrayan Project'. The Hon'ble Foreign Minister urged for the immediate utilization of the promised climate finance for developing nations as well as early operationalization of the fund for loss and damage.

The Hon'ble Foreign Minister appreciated the CPG delegation for their willingness to visit Rohingya camps in Cox's Bazar to understand the magnitude of challenges faced by Bangladesh in hosting 1.2 million



Rohingyas, and explained how the prolonged presence of the forcibly displaced Rohingyas is creating burden on our economy and environment in Cox’s Bazar. He underscored the importance of the Rohingyas’ safe and sustainable return to their homeland Myanmar. He also encouraged the CPG delegation

to play more active role in Scottish Parliament to mobilize support for the ICJ case on the Rohingyas.

The Hon’ble Foreign Minister invited Scottish investment on renewable energy, green transition including electric vehicles, shipbuilding, marine fisheries and aquaculture

and tourism. Both sides also shared views on enhancing welfare of RMG workers through ‘fair price’ by the brands. The Hon’ble Foreign Minister also briefed the delegation on the government’s commitment to assisting the Election Commission to organize the parliamentary elections in a free and fair environment.

Hon’ble Information Minister Attended Maldives Government Inauguration Ceremony



Hon'ble Minister of Information and Broadcasting Dr. Hasan Mahmud, MP attended the oath taking ceremony of newly elected President of Maldives Dr. Mohamed Muizzu. Newly appointed Foreign Minister, Chief of Protocol; High ranked officials of Ministry of Foreign Affairs and High Commissioner of Bangladesh Rear Admiral SM Abul Kalam Azad received the Minister at the airport in Male.

Honorable Information and Broadcasting Minister participated in the oath ceremony of the new President and Vice President of Maldives at Republic Square on 17



November afternoon. Honorable President of Sri Lanka, Vice President of Seychelles, Special Ambassador of China, Ministers of India, Pakistan, Turkey, UAE, Ambassadors, representatives of international organizations was present in the ceremony. Honorable Minister also attended in the dinner hosted by the Honorable President of the Republic of Maldives in the evening.



Bangladesh Elected to UNESCO Executive Board

Bangladesh has been elected to the UNESCO Executive Board at a keenly contested election held during the 42nd General Conference in Paris on 15 November 2023. This brings Bangladesh back to the board after two years for the term 2023-27.

Bangladesh's victory at UNESCO is the result of our deep engagement and diplomatic strides at the international fora under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. Our pledge is to work in partnership with

all to accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. The victory is also a testament to Bangladesh's constructive engagement at UNESCO and the country's balanced, progressive and principle-based foreign policy.

Bangladesh Embassy in Paris was instrumental in campaigning for the elections. Education Minister Dr. Dipu Moni who led the Bangladesh delegation at the UNESCO's 42nd General Conference, commended

the Ambassador Khondker M Talha and his team for the success.

Apart from being elected at the UNESCO Executive Board, Bangladesh was also elected at the International Coordinating Council of the Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB) and the Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee (IGBC), elections of which were held during the conference.





Hon'ble Expatriates' Welfare Minister Joined Legal Migration High- Level Conference in Madrid

Mr. Imran Ahmad, MP, Hon'ble Minister for Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment visited Madrid, Spain on 15-17 November to attend the High-level Conference titled- "Shaping the future of EU legal migration: Where we are and where do we want to go?". The conference addressed legal migration strategies, legislative initiative of labour migration, Skills and Talent Package

and the challenges being faced by the EU member states, among others. Speakers and experts, including relevant EU Commissioners, MEPs, Ministers, European social and economic partners as well as representatives of the private sectors participated in the conference. The Hon'ble Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister, in his deliberation, highlighted potentials of

young workforce of Bangladesh. He stressed on the need for cooperation of EU regarding skill development of the youth of Bangladesh in line with the demands of the EU markets. The Hon'ble Minister also highlighted the importance of bilateral arrangements to ensure sustainable and effective migration from Bangladesh to the European countries.



Hon'ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs Attended Germany's National Day Celebration in Dhaka



Hon'ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md. Shahriar Alam, MP joined the celebration of the National Day of Germany 2023 as the Chief Guest on 09 November 2023 at the Franco-German Embassy in Dhaka.

In his speech, Hon'ble State Minister acknowledged German development cooperation to Bangladesh's rural development, primary and vocational education, primary healthcare, private sector development, energy efficiency and climate change and expressed satisfaction at Germany's



being the largest trading partner of Bangladesh in Europe and the second largest globally. He also wanted Germany to be a partner in the green transition of Bangladesh economy.

Hon'ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs reaffirmed Bangladesh's

commitment to working with Germany in the UN, ASEM and other international fora for international peace and security and sustainable development.

Hon'ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs and CDA, a.i. of German

Embassy Mr. Jan-Rolf Janowski also had a tour of the exhibition of historical documents and letters exchanged between Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the then German Chancellor Willy Brandt.

EU Delegation Met Hon'ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs in Dhaka

EU delegation led by H.E. Ms. Paola Pampaloni, Director, Asia and Pacific, European External Action Service (EEAS) called on Hon'ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs on 15 November 2023 at the latter's office. The EU delegation highly commended Bangladesh's socio-economic development over the last decade as well as the positive changes in the RMG sector. They expressed satisfaction at the constructive discussion they had under 3+3 format with the Secretaries of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Commerce and Ministry of Labour

and Employment. Hon'ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs reiterated Bangladesh Government's firm commitment to implementing the National Action Plan (NAP) on the Labour Sector of Bangladesh (2021-2026) amidst numerous constraints. Both sides appreciated the progress made so far while recognizing the need for further progresses for obtaining GSP+ facility after expiry of EBA facility in 2029.

The two sides expressed satisfaction at the joint launching of negotiations on a new Partnership and Cooperation

Agreement (PCA) by Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and European Commission President H.E. Ursula von der Leyen on 25 October 2023 in Brussels to expand and develop the multi-dimensional relationship between Bangladesh and the EU.

Both sides also shared their views on Rohingya crisis, climate change, EU's Global Gateway initiative and issues of regional and international mutual interest. Head of the EU Delegation to Bangladesh Ambassador Charles Whiteley also attended the meeting.





State Minister for Foreign Affairs Attended Preparatory Consultation for Global Migration Summit

On 21 November 2023, Bangladesh Migration Compact Taskforce (BMCT) in collaboration with the International Migration Organization (IOM) Bangladesh organized a day-long National Preparatory Consultation for the 14th Summit of Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) at Hotel Pan Pacific Sonargaon, Dhaka. H.E. Md. Shahriar Alam, MP, Hon'ble State Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs graced the event as the Chief Guest. Both the co-chairs of BMCT, Ambassador Masud Bin Momen, Foreign Secretary (Senior Secretary) and Mr. Dr. Ahmed Munirus Saleheen, Senior Secretary of Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare

and Overseas Employment, French Ambassador to Bangladesh H.E. Mrs. Marie MASDUPUY, Ambassador of United Arab Emirates to Bangladesh H.E. Abdulla Ali Abdulla Khaseif Al Hmoudi, Italian Ambassador to Bangladesh H.E. Mr. Antonio Alessandro and Chief of Mission, International Organization for Migration (IOM) Mr. Abdusattor Esoev were present during the event.

In his remarks, the Hon'ble State Minister said that with our foreign policy priority on both climate change and migration, Bangladesh has been championing this particular issue, especially during the last few years of the Government's tenure.

He also said that Bangladesh and other climate vulnerable countries have long been at the forefront of the demand for a dedicated fund for addressing climate-related loss and damage.

He highlighted the importance of global responsibility for climate migrants' and Bangladesh's stand to remain committed to the equitable share of climate financing for both loss and damage and meaningful adaptation.

The consultation comprised one plenary session and four working sessions focusing on the six (6) priorities of the 14th Summit of GFMD held in January 2024 in Geneva, Switzerland.





Hon'ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs had a Meeting with Commonwealth Pre-Election Assessment Mission



The State Minister for Foreign Affairs had a meeting with the Commonwealth Pre-Election Assessment Mission (PEAM) at his office on 21 November 2023. He re-affirmed Bangladesh's willingness to play a greater role in the Commonwealth system as it advances along the development path. During the meeting, he briefed the visiting delegation about the several initiatives that the government has taken to hold national election scheduled on 07 January 2024. He expressed that present government is fully aware of its democratic obligations and is sincerely working to hold a free and fair national election for which an independent Election Commission (EC) has been formed. The present government embarked on electoral reforms like creating biometric voter list, introducing transparent ballot boxes, giving full budgetary

independence to the Election Commission, enacting law to establish a mechanism for appointing the impartial election commissioners through a committee led by a judge.

The State Minister said that some opposition parties, who have in the past shown bias towards undemocratic change of power, had been threatening to foil the election unless a caretaker government is formed to oversee the election. He said that the election process in Bangladesh is open to domestic and foreign observers. He underlined that the election is a festivity for our people and voters' participation is usually much higher in Bangladesh. He highlighted that the present government encourages broader participation of political parties in the elections and the actual parameter of an inclusive election is the participation of the people in the electoral process.

The delegation leader mentioned that the relationship between Commonwealth and Bangladesh is more holistic and includes a wide range of issues. He further added that his organization stands ready to continue positive engagement even to provide post-electoral support.

The State Minister expressed readiness to extend the cooperation of the Government to all foreign election observers that would like to observe the upcoming parliamentary elections.

Commonwealth Pre-Election Assessment Mission (PEAM) is on a four-day visit to Bangladesh. They will assess the current situation in the country and make recommendation to the Commonwealth Secretary General. The Secretary General will then decide on whether to send an Observer Mission or not.



Turkish Cooperation Agency Vice President Met Foreign Secretary



Mr. Ümit Naci Yorulmaz, Vice President of the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) called on Foreign Secretary (Senior Secretary) Ambassador Masud Bin Momen on 02 November 2023 in Dhaka.

The Foreign Secretary praised TIKA's humanitarian efforts in Bangladesh, especially their humanitarian assistance to the forcibly displaced Rohingyas, temporarily sheltered in Bangladesh. Referring to the recent

devastating earthquake in Türkiye, Foreign Secretary suggested TIKA's support to earthquake preparedness and related capacity building in Bangladesh.

The TIKA Vice President presented an overview of their humanitarian activities worldwide, including in Bangladesh. He briefed the Foreign Secretary on TIKA's ongoing humanitarian projects in Bangladesh in community healthcare in different districts, climate resilient agriculture

in Khulna, greenhouse agriculture in Bogura, water management in Bandarban as well as earthquake preparedness training to the relevant officials, apart from the humanitarian assistance to the forcibly displaced Rohingyas. Both the Foreign Secretary and TIKA Vice President also stressed on women empowerment through women-led projects. Ambassador of Türkiye to Bangladesh H.E. Ramis Şen was also present during the meeting.

Foreign Secretary Held Bilateral Talks with Jordanian Counterpart in Amman

Foreign Secretary of Bangladesh Ambassador Masud Bin Momen had a bilateral meeting with his Jordanian counterpart Ambassador Majed ALQATARNEH in Amman on 08 November 2023.

Discussion encompassed wide range of the bilateral issues and the developments in the region.

Foreign Secretary reiterated Bangladesh's unwavering support to the legitimate aspirations of the

Palestinian people through the establishment of an independent and sovereign Palestinian State.

Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina strongly raised the Palestinian issue in all her recent engagements



at bilateral and multilateral fora, the Foreign Secretary conveyed to his Jordanian counterpart.

The Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina called for the unity of the Ummah at the recently held International Conference on Women in Islam held in Jeddah and meeting with the OIC Ambassadors based in Dhaka, he added.

Foreign Secretary highlighted the development of Bangladesh under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and invited Jordanian businesses to take opportunities created by it.

Jordanian Foreign Secretary thanked Bangladesh for sheltering over 1 million Rohingyas from Myanmar. He also mentioned that people of Jordan are proud of the recent economic development of Bangladesh.

He briefed about the various initiatives taken by Jordan for a ceasefire in the occupied Palestine and for finding a permanent and just solution for the people of Palestine.

They discussed tapping full potential of bilateral trade, employment of more skilled manpower in Jordan, establishment of direct air connectivity, increasing tourism

cooperation and cooperation at multilateral forums.

They also put emphasis on concluding a number of pending bilateral instruments for diversified engagements between the two brotherly countries.

The two sides highlighted holding foreign office consultations on regular basis. The discussion continued over lunch hosted by the Jordanian counterpart in honor of the Foreign Secretary.

Foreign Secretary invited the Jordanian Foreign Secretary to visit Dhaka early 2024 for the next meeting.



Foreign Secretary Inaugurated Jordan-Bangladesh Friendship Association in Amman

H.E. Ambassador Masud Bin Momen, Foreign Secretary (Senior Secretary) of Bangladesh inaugurated the Jordan-Bangladesh Friendship Association in Amman on 09 November 2023.

H.E. Nahida Sobhan, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Jordan, members of the Association, civil society, academia and media personalities also attended the event held at a restaurant in

Amman. The Association encompasses members from the Jordanian elites, academicians, doctors, business people, poet, and journalists. President of the association is Sheikh



Dr. Ayman Odeh Al-Badawa. He is a widely known Jordanian tribal leader and renowned businessman. He is also a philanthropist and has experience in UN peacekeeping and conflict resolution.

The Foreign Secretary urged the members of the Association to use

their influence to complement the government's efforts to promote and expand bilateral relationship between Bangladesh and Jordan. He asked particularly to focus on establishing direct flights, increasing exchanges and visit at various levels. The Foreign Secretary extended an invitation to the members of the Association

to visit Bangladesh to gain a first-hand understanding of the country's development journey under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. This knowledge will be valuable in charting out the Association's future course of action, he added.



Foreign Secretary Joined Seminar on Rohingya Crisis and Repatriation Process



Foreign Secretary (Senior Secretary) Ambassador Masud Bin Momen attended a seminar as Chief Guest in BIISS on 15 November 2023 on 'The Rohingya Crisis: Contemporary Security Dimensions and Future of Repatriation Process'. In his speech, the Foreign Secretary emphasized on the multifaceted domestic, regional and global challenges of the Rohingya crisis and the necessity of commencement of safe, sustainable and voluntary repatriation. He urged the international community, UN agencies to materialize the aspirations and right of the Rohingyas to return to their homeland in Rakhine State.



National Task Force on Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals Held 43rd Meeting

The 43rd meeting of National Task Force on Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals was held on 22 November 2023 with Foreign Secretary (Senior Secretary) in the chaired. UN resident Coordinator, representatives from different UN

agencies, and related government Ministries, offices attended there. The meeting discussed on various issues related to the humanitarian operations for the Rohingyas in Cox's Bazar and Bhasan Char. Efforts to keep attention of the

global community on the Rohingya crisis were elaborated. Preparation to commence sustainable and voluntary repatriation would be continued, the Foreign Secretary mentioned.



Bangladesh-India FOC Held in New Delhi

Foreign Office Consultations (FOC) between Bangladesh and India was held on 24 November 2023 at the historic Hyderabad House in New Delhi, India. During the Foreign Office Consultation, the Foreign Secretary (Senior Secretary) of Bangladesh Ambassador Masud Bin Momen led the Bangladesh delegation and Indian Foreign Secretary H. E. Shri Vinay Kwatra led the Indian delegation.

During the Foreign Office consultation, the discussed issues were: i) Development cooperation and projects; ii) Business, trade and connectivity; iii) Political, defense and security cooperation; iv) Cooperation in water, power and energy sectors; v) Sub-regional, regional and Multilateral Cooperation; and vi) Consular and Cultural Cooperation etc. Bangladesh emphasized on deepening cooperation in these areas for greater prosperity. Both countries

also reviewed the progress since the last FOC and discussed what the priority areas and steps could be in the coming days.

Bangladesh raised some important issues with India in the FOC namely, early completion of Teesta Treaty and other common river water sharing agreement, removal of trade barriers in exportable products of Bangladesh, ensuring uninterrupted supply of essential commodities



to Bangladesh, ensuring peaceful border and visa facilitation. The Foreign Secretary of Bangladesh also

emphasized deepening and widening of the people-to-people contacts of the two countries and sought India's

assistance in resolving the Rohingya crisis.



Foreign Secretary Briefed Concurrently Accredited Ambassadors to Bangladesh in New Delhi



Bangladesh Foreign Secretary (Senior Secretary) briefed the Heads of the Missions based in New Delhi (around 90 Missions) on 24 November 2023, who are concurrently accredited to Bangladesh. A large number of Ambassadors and diplomats attended the briefing session.

Foreign Secretary visited New Delhi in connection with the Foreign Office Consultations between Bangladesh

and India, which was held in the Hyderabad House on 24 November 2023. He briefed the concurrently accredited Ambassadors to Bangladesh in a program organized by the Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi at the Bangabandhu Hall.

Foreign Secretary highlighted the Foreign Policy priorities and dynamics of Bangladesh under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

He also briefed the Ambassadors about Bangladesh's position on various geopolitical contemporary issues. During the briefing, he highlighted the recent socio-economic developments of Bangladesh for last 15 years under the dynamic and visionary leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Foreign Secretary further briefed them about the recent political scenario and



preparations of next general elections in Bangladesh. Mentioning that election is a festival in Bangladesh as we see it in many democratic countries, he told the Ambassadors that People of Bangladesh have been eagerly waiting to rejoice this festival and take part in the democratic process to vote and elect the representatives of their choice. The Election Commission is committed to holding a free and fair election with participation of the voters in a festive atmosphere.

Ambassador Masud solicited their

support to resolve the Rohingya crisis through ensuring their safe and sustainable repatriation for peace and stability of the region and beyond. During the briefing session, the Ambassadors were requested for the support of their respective government for Bangladesh's candidature for the membership of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Council under category 'C' for the term 2024-2025, elections to be held in London on 01 December 2023.

Given Bangladesh's recent socio-

economic developments, continued stability and growing importance in the regional and global platforms and engagement with the issues of global concern, Foreign Secretary urged the Ambassadors to request their respective government to consider opening diplomatic Missions in Dhaka. He assured them of Bangladesh Government's cooperation and assistance in facilitating the process.

Foreign Secretary responded to various questions/queries raised by the concurrently accredited Ambassadors.

Bangladesh-EU Hold 4th Round Meeting in Dhaka

Bangladesh and the EU held the fourth round of 3+3 meeting on 15 November 2023 in Dhaka to review the progress of National Action Plan (NAP) on Labour Sector of Bangladesh (2021-2026). Bangladesh side was led by Foreign Secretary

(Senior Secretary) Ambassador Masud Bin Momen while the EU side was led by European External Action Service (EEAS) Director for Asia and Pacific Ms. Paola Pampaloni. Mr. Tapan Kanti Ghosh, Senior Secretary, Ministry of Commerce;

Mr. Md. Ehsan-E-Elahi, Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment from Bangladesh side and senior officials from the Directorates-General for Trade and Employment of the European Commission participated in the meeting.



The two sides reviewed at length progresses made in the implementation of the National Action Plan on Labour Sector of Bangladesh, including amendments to relevant laws, elimination of child labour, inspection of factories,

remediation of factories, labour rights and human rights, responsible business conduct, trade facilitation in the European market, post-LDC GSP+ trade benefits in a congenial environment. Bangladesh side briefed on the recent legal and institutional

developments in the labour sector and expressed firm commitment to implementing the National Action Plan as a priority. The EU side praised the positive changes in the Bangladesh labour sector and expected further progresses.



Bangladesh Missions Abroad Marked National Constitution Day

Bangladesh Missions in abroad observed the National Constitution Day with due dignity in the presence

of Embassy officials and other members of the Bangladeshi expat community. The messages of the

Hon'ble President and the Hon'ble Prime Minister were read out during the event.



Bangladesh Ambassador Concurrently Accredited to Colombia Presented Credentials to President

Bangladesh Ambassador to the United States Mr. Muhammad Imran, concurrently accredited to Colombia, presented his credentials to Hon'ble President of the Republic

of Colombia Gustavo Francisco Petro Urrego.

Ambassador Imran formally presented his credentials to the Colombian President at a colorful ceremony

held at the Presidential Palace in Bogota, the capital of Colombia, on 08 November 2023.

While presenting the credentials to the Colombian President, the



Ambassador conveyed greetings to him from Hon'ble President Mohammed Shahabuddin and Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The Colombian President reciprocated the greetings to the Bangladesh President and the Prime Minister.

Bangladesh Ambassador to the US Met Two US Congress Members



Bangladesh Ambassador to the United States Mr. Muhammad Imran met two members of the US Congress and apprised them of impressive socioeconomic progress and success stories of Bangladesh under the dynamic leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Ambassador Imran held the meeting with Republican Congresswoman Young Kim, a member of House Foreign Affairs Committee and the

Chairwoman of the Indo-Pacific Sub-committee on 13 November 2023 in Washington DC.

Earlier, Ambassador Imran met Republican Congressman Ken Buck, a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and the House Judiciary Committee, at his office in the Capitol Hill.

During the meeting with the members of the US Congress, the Ambassador

briefed them about Bangladesh's robust ready-made garment (RMG) exports, thriving pharmaceutical industry, diversified leather products, food processing industry and resilient remittance inflows.

They also discussed about US-Bangladesh partnership in various areas of social advancement and economic development as well as cooperation in the fields of power and energy.



Bangladesh Embassy in Washington DC Celebrated Armed Forces Day



The Bangladesh Embassy in Washington DC hosted a reception on 21 November 2023 to celebrate the 52nd Armed Forces Day. Deputy Chief of Staff of US Army Lieutenant General Patrick Matlock addressed the function as the Chief Guest.

Bangladesh Ambassador to the United States Mr. Muhammad Imran and Defence Attaché of the Embassy Brigadier General Md. Shahedul Islam spoke at the event.

Ambassadors, diplomats and defense attaches from a number of countries, senior officials from the Pentagon, Department of State, and other US organizations, members of

Bangladeshi diaspora and Embassy officials and employees attended the function.

Lieutenant General Patrick Matlock, in his speech, highly praised the Bangladesh Armed Forces for their contribution to safeguarding national independence and establishing world peace.

He said the Bangladesh Armed Forces have been in the forefront of security and national independence, providing relief to fellow citizens in times of natural disasters, sheltering the destitute and bringing peace and stability around the globe.

Ambassador Imran paid deepest homage to the architect of Bangladesh, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman who led the nation to achieve its long-cherished independence. He also recalled with profound respect three million martyrs, including the members of the armed forces, for their great sacrifice in the War of Liberation.

He mentioned the multifaceted collaboration between the armed forces of Bangladesh and the United States, saying that two countries share the convergent views on a range of defense and security issues.

Bangladesh Ambassador Presented Credentials to Italy President

Bangladesh Ambassador to Italy H.E. Mr. Md. Monirul Islam presented his credentials to H.E. Mr. Sergio Mattarella, President of Italy on 16 November 2023 at the Quirinale Palace, official residence

of the Italian President. After the brief ceremonial event, Ambassador joined an exclusive private meeting with the President. The President warmly congratulated and assured of all-out support during the tour of

duty of the new Ambassador. While highlighting the ongoing development journey of Bangladesh under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, the Ambassador also mentioned about the developments



in Bangladesh-Italy bilateral relations in recent times. President Mattarella appeared to be very cordial and welcoming during the meeting. He

advised to strengthen cultural relations and emphasized bilateral engagements in the areas of education, research and training for mutual benefits of the two

peoples. Later, the Ambassador and his spouse were invited for official photo session with the President.



Italy-Bangladesh Friendship Association Held General Meeting in Rome

The Second General Meeting of Italy-Bangladesh Friendship Association was held on 08 November 2023 at the Chancery of Bangladesh Embassy in Rome. A good number of delegations comprising of entrepreneurs,

businessmen from Apulia, Abruzzo, Campania and Lazio region were present along with the President, Vice-Presidents, Directors and Members of the Association in the meeting. Investment and commercial

exchange opportunities between two countries were discussed. The Ambassador thanked the Hon'ble Senators and dignitaries for their presence and keen interest in doing business with Bangladesh.





Bangladesh High Commission Joined Commonwealth Fair in London

The Commonwealth Fair 2023 held on 11 November 2023 at the Kensington Town Hall, London. Bangladesh High Commission London had two stalls at the fair, one for handicrafts and another for food and beverages to showcase our Bangladeshi vibrant culture products and food.



Bangladesh High Commission in London Observed Armed Forces Day 2023

Bangladesh High Commission in London celebrated the 'Armed Forces Day 2023' by hosting a reception at the British Armed Forces Museum

on 22 November 2023. Senior Government Officials, Diplomats, Defence Attachés of different High Commissions and Embassies in

London, Freedom Fighters and Bangladeshi British Leaders attended the reception.





H.E. Saima Wazed Delivered Keynote at Climate and Mental Health Event at Commonwealth Secretariat

H.E. Saima Wazed, Advisor to the Director General of the WHO for Mental Health and Autism and Thematic Ambassador for Vulnerability of the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF), also the Regional Director-elect of WHO South-East Asian

Regional Office (SEARO) and Chairperson of Shuchona Foundation, presented the key-note speech at a high-profile roundtable on “Climate Vulnerability and Mental Health: Voices of Women”, hosted on 14 November 2023 by Bangladesh

High Commission, London and the Commonwealth in partnership with the Shuchona Foundation on the eve of the Commonwealth Women Leaders' Summit taking place 15-16 November 2023 at the Commonwealth Secretariat in London.



UK Minister for Environmental Quality and Resilience Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Rebecca Pow MP, Shadow Minister for Equalities Office Yasmin Qureshi, Conservative MP for Kensington and Parliamentary Under

Secretary of State for Housing and Homelessness Felicity Buchan and Chair of UK All Party Parliamentary Group for UN Women Baroness Verma spoke on the occasion as special guests. Commonwealth Secretary-General RT Hon Patricia

Scotland KC, co-host of the event, made introductory remarks and High Commissioner of Bangladesh to the UK Saida Muna Tasneem chaired the event as the host in her capacity as the President of Women in Diplomacy Network, London.





Bangladesh Elected Vice-Chair of IMO Assembly

Bangladesh High Commissioner to the UK Saida Muna Tasneem has been unanimously elected with 150 votes as the First Vice President of the 33rd Assembly of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) in London on 27 November 2023.

This is the first time Bangladesh and its PR has ever been voted to one of the highest positions of the prestigious IMO General Assembly comprised of 175 member states that meets biennially in London to adopt all regulatory, financial, legal,

and technical co-operation decisions of the global maritime industry and government. Saudi Arabia's Prince Khalid bin Bandar al Saud was elected President.

Bangladesh High Commissioner Presented Credentials to King of Malaysia

H.E. Md. Shameem Ahsan, new High Commissioner of Bangladesh to Malaysia presented credentials on 08 November 2023 to Mr Yang di-Pertuan Agong Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah Ibni Almarhum Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah Al-Musta'in Billah, King of Malaysia at the National Palace in Kuala Lumpur.

After the presentation, the High Commissioner conveyed the greetings of the Hon'ble President and Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh to the Malaysian King. The King also reciprocated and conveyed his best wishes to the President and Prime Minister of Bangladesh. Before the commencement of the presentation ceremony, the High Commissioner

was accorded a General Salute by the "Prestige Guard" of the National Palace. Malaysian Deputy Foreign Minister Datuk Mohamad Bin Alamin, Secretary General Dato' Sri Amran Bin Mohamed Zin and other dignitaries were present during the ceremony.





Bangladesh High Commissioner Met Secretary General of Ministry of Plantation and Commodities of Malaysia



H.E. Md. Shameem Ahsan, High Commissioner of Bangladesh to Malaysia met Dato' Haji Mad Zaidi Mohd Karli, Secretary General of the Ministry of Plantation and Commodities of Malaysia at the latter's office on 17 November 2023. The primary purpose of the visit was to secure support of the Malaysia in respect of the candidature of Bangladesh for re-election in the position of Managing Director of the Common Fund for Commodities (CFC). The Secretary lauded with high credentials of Bangladesh candidate while underlying that it is logical that they support the candidate of a 'Producer' country rather than a 'Consumer' country. Issues of common interest including increased cooperation in the field of development of Rubber and Palm Oil Sectors, sharing skills and further strengthening of commercial and economic links between the two countries figured prominently.

Bangladesh High Commission in Kuala Lumpur Observed 52nd Armed Forces Day

Bangladesh High Commission in Kuala Lumpur observed "52nd Bangladesh Armed Forces Day" on 21 November 2023 in Kuala Lumpur with due dignity. Vice Admiral Dato' Zulhelmy bin Ithnain, Deputy Chief of Malaysian Navy

was the chief guest while Bangladesh High Commissioner to Malaysia Md. Shameem Ahsan, Defence advisers from different countries, senior officials of the Malaysian Armed Forces, various Ministries, Bangladesh High Commission

officials and dignitaries from the Bangladeshi community were also present on the occasion. During the programme, the speakers highlighted the significance of "Bangladesh Armed Forces Day".





Bangladesh Ambassador Met Greece Deputy Foreign Minister

H.E. Mr. Ashud Ahmed had a very fruitful meeting with Mrs. Alexandra Papadopoulou, the Hon'ble Deputy Foreign Minister of Greece at his office on 03 November 2023. Held at a cordial atmosphere, the meeting saw a positive outcome with regard to a few bilateral political and the ongoing migration issues of mutual interest. Mrs. Papadopoulou assured the Ambassador of all possible support of her Ministry in further streamlining the issues sooner than later for the benefit of the two friendly countries.



Greek Business Delegation Met Bangladesh Ambassador

A Joint Delegation of Corfu Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Friend of the Chamber Development Group of Greek Islands (EOAEN) had a very fruitful meeting with Ambassador H.E. Mr. Ashud Ahmed at his office on 06 November 2023. During his speech to the chamber representatives the Ambassador briefed the chamber officials present

at the meeting about the remarkable economic progress that Bangladesh has made through the last decade, terming Bangladesh as a one of the fastest growing economies of the world. He mentioned that Bangladesh government encourages both exports and imports. He suggested sending a business delegation from Corfu, Athens to Bangladesh for discussions

on potential areas of cooperation on trade and investment. He also suggested online meetings of the business peoples of the two countries. At the end of the meeting, they proposed that both sides should make joint efforts for enhancing the existing level of trade and investment.





Bangladesh Ambassador Presented Credentials to Austrian President

H.E. Asad Alam Siam presented his credentials as the Ambassador of Bangladesh to Austria to the Federal President of Austria H.E. Alexander Van der Bellen in a ceremony held at the Hofburg Palace (the official residence and office of the President) in Vienna on 21 November 2023. Ambassador Siam was accorded a Guard-of-Honour by a smartly tuned contingent of the armed forces of Austria.



Bangladesh Ambassador Met Secretary General of Austrian Foreign Ministry

H.E. Mr. Asad Alam Siam met Ambassador Nikolaus Marschik, Secretary General, Federal Ministry for the European and International Affairs of Austria at his office on 15 November 2023. Ambassador Nikolaus Marschik warmly greeted H.E. Mr. Asad Alam Siam and congratulated him for assumption of office. They discussed various issues of mutual interest during the meeting and expressed their commitment to strengthen the existing bilateral relations between two friendly countries.



Bangladesh Embassy in Paris Celebrated Armed Forces Day

The 52nd “Armed Forces Day” was celebrated with due fervour and enthusiasm by Bangladesh Embassy in Paris on 21 November 2023 at the prestigious Paris 16 Town hall. The programme was attended by more than

a hundred invited guests that included high officials of the French defense and foreign ministries, ambassadors and defense attachés stationed in France from many friendly countries, top officials from various military

equipment manufacturing companies in France, valiant Bangladeshi freedom fighters living in France, expatriate professionals, politicians, businessmen and journalists from print and electronic media.



H.E. the Ambassador of Bangladesh Khondker M Talha and Defense Attaché Brigadier General Md. Mizanur Rahman, NDC, welcomed the guests. The programme commenced with the playing of the national anthems of Bangladesh and France. A documentary film on the active participation of the armed forces in the War of Liberation, formation and development of the armed forces in the post-independence Bangladesh, remarkable activities of the armed forces at home and abroad was then screened to highlight the significance of the “Armed Forces Day”.

During the programme, the Ambassador expressed deep respect

and gratitude to all the martyrs of the armed forces in the War of Liberation and the sacrifice of life by the members of the armed forces during the post-war reconstruction and protecting the sovereignty of the country. He briefly presented the structure and development of the Bangladesh Armed Forces in the light of the Defense Policy, appropriate for an independent and sovereign state, formulated in 1974 under the instructions of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. He also mentioned the far-sighted leadership, outstanding contribution and sincere efforts of the Honorable Prime

Minister Sheikh Hasina to build the armed forces as a contemporary and professional force. He further highlighted the contribution of the Bangladesh Armed Forces in UN peacekeeping missions.

The Defense Attaché of the Mission shed lights on the consistent and significant development of the Bangladesh Armed Forces and their activities at home and abroad. He expressed his thanks and gratitude to all the invited guests of the armed forces of the friendly nations including France and sought the wholehearted cooperation for continuing this trend of mutual friendship and progress in the future.

Bangladesh Ambassador Met Jordan Times Editor-in Chief

H.E. the Ambassador Ms. Nahida Sobhan had a meeting with Editor-in Chief of Jordan’s leading daily English newspaper Jordan Times, Ms. Hana Namrouqa and renowned Jordanian journalist Mr. Raed Omari. The meeting was a part of the public diplomacy initiatives of the Embassy. During the meeting H.E. Ambassador

highlighted the recent development of Bangladesh under the leadership of the Hon’ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. She mentioned that Bangladesh is achieving self-sufficiency in food production and making significant strides in areas such as women’s empowerment, human resource development, education,

healthcare, energy production, trade, commerce, investment, information and communication technology (ICT). The discussion also covered different aspects related to media and journalism of Bangladesh and Jordan. They discussed the possibilities of cooperation in the field of media and communications.





Bangladesh Ambassador Visited Egyptian Assistant Foreign Minister

Bangladesh Ambassador to Egypt H.E. Ms. Samina Naz called on Ambassador Ahmed Shaheen, Assistant Foreign Minister for Asian Affairs of Egypt on 20 November 2023. The meeting took place at a cordial and warm atmosphere.

During the meeting, H.E. stressed on more high level political and official visits as well as regular Foreign Office Consultation (FOC) between the two countries to deepen and diversify the overall relations and to discuss the wide ranges of bilateral issues. She reminded the Assistant Minister that the 2nd FOC is due in Cairo and

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Egypt may consider a fresh date in this regard.

To boost the bilateral trade H.E. proposed to form Joint Trade Committee (JTC), Joint Business Forum, exchange of business delegation etc. She also mentioned that Bangladesh is exporting Pharmaceutical products to more than 150 countries of the world at a very reasonable fare. Egypt may import pharmaceutical products from Bangladesh which may boost trade volume between the two countries.

She apprised the two countries' friendly tradition of supporting each other's candidates in multilateral forums, the UN in particular. Briefing about the Bangladeshi students studying different universities of Egypt, H.E. stated that the educational cooperation may be enhanced by both ends. She also proposed for an institutional Co-Operation in the field of tourism for enhancing people to people connectivity and hoped that introduction of Dhaka-Cairo direct flight will hugely contribute in this regard.



Hon'ble Prime Minister's Aid to Gaza Delivered to Egyptian Red Crescent

The first instalment of humanitarian assistance sent by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for the

Palestine People in Gaza was handed over to Dr. Ramy El Nazer, CEO of the Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC)

on 14 November 2023 by H.E. Ms. Samina Naz at the ERC Head Quarters at Nasser City, Cairo. ERC



is designated by the Government of Egypt for aid delivery through Egypt Rafah Border to the Palestine Red Crescent in Gaza. During the handover program, Second Secretary (Political), the Deputy Chief and other representative from ERC were also present. The humanitarian

assistance consists of dry food items. H.E. extended solidarity and deepest empathy to the people of Palestine on behalf of the Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh. Appreciation was laid to the Egyptian Government and Red Crescent for their tremendous efforts during this

humanitarian crisis. The delegation from the Bangladesh embassy also had a tour around the Red Crescent Head Quarters to have a practical experience of the voluntary works carried out by the red crescent volunteers to deliver aid to Gaza.



Bangladesh Ambassador to Spain Presented Letters of Credence to Co-Prince of Andorra in Paris



Invited by the concerned authority of Andorra, Bangladesh’s Ambassador to Spain Mohammad Sarwar Mahmood, ndc visited Paris on 13 November 2023 to present the Letters of Credence as the non-resident Ambassador of Bangladesh to Andorra to the President of France, Mr. Emanuel Macron, who is ex officio one of the two Co-Princes (i.e., Co-Heads of State) of the Principality of Andorra. The ceremony of the presentation of credentials was held on 13 November 2023 at the Elysee Palace. During the ceremony, the Ambassador briefly spoke on ways to the further progression of bilateral relations between Andorra and Bangladesh. He also sought President Macron’s continuous efforts to raise global opinion for safe and dignified return of the forcibly displaced Myanmar nationals. President Macron spoke highly of the wise leadership of the Hon’ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in steering the country to prosperity and development.



Bangladesh Embassy Hosted Tea Promotion Seminar in Spain

The Embassy of Bangladesh in Madrid organized a seminar entitled "Enhancing Spain-Bangladesh Trade and Investment Relations: Showcasing the Finest Bangladeshi Tea" on 7 November 2023 at the Madrid Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Services in Madrid. The seminar was attended by a large number of prospective businesses and investors in Spain, members of the diplomatic community in Madrid and the Madrid Chamber, including the representatives of the London Tea Exchange, among others. Given the Government's due emphasis on the diversification of export basket, the seminar sought to advance Bangladesh's bilateral commercial engagements with Spain through promoting and popularizing Bangladeshi tea among local consumers, thereby celebrating

the richness of the Bengali culture—and most importantly—deepening friendship and attachment with the Spanish public sphere.

In his welcome address, Bangladesh's Ambassador to Spain Mohammad Sarwar Mahmood, ndc said, "Bangladesh is the second largest global exporter of apparels, next only to China. But what is less known to the European business community is the fact that Bangladesh has tremendous competitive advantages, untapped treasures and immense potentials in some of the promising sectors that include tea, jute, leather, pharmaceuticals, agro-business, frozen sea foods, ceramic, ICT and light engineering. Bangladesh produces some of the finest tea blends in the world. Elegant design and delicacy, ecological sustainability,

health consciousness and hard works have made Bangladeshi teas stand out in taste and flavour, wherever they are taken. A good number of tea brands exported from Bangladesh have earned global acclaim." The Ambassador called upon Spanish entrepreneurs and investors to take a leap forward and visit Bangladesh to explore the endless opportunities the country has to offer to them. President of the Madrid Chamber Ángel Asensio encouraged the Spanish business community to take advantage of the huge opportunities for expansion of trade with Bangladesh beyond RMG and stressed proactive engagements between the private sectors of the two countries. At the end of the seminar, several premium quality Bangladeshi tea brands were showcased and gifted to and tasted by the guests.





Construction for Bangladesh Embassy Buildings in Thimphu Began

The construction work for Chancery building and Ambassador's Residence of the Bangladesh Embassy in Thimphu has been started on 27 November 2023 and a Ground Breaking Ceremony was held in Thimphu on this occasion. Bangladesh and Bhutan exchanged diplomatic plots in each other's capital for Embassy buildings. Bhutan provided around 1.5 acres of land in the newly planned Diplomatic Zone in Hejo, Samtenling of Thimphu.

On this land, foundation stone for Embassy building was laid on 19 April 2017 by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina and His Majesty King of Bhutan Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck. On the Ground Breaking Ceremony, a contract has been signed by the Ambassador of Bangladesh in Bhutan H.E. Mr. Shib Nath Roy and the CEO of Vajra Builders Private Limited Mr. Jamtsho for construction work of the project. Hon'ble Advisor

for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade of Bhutan, Royal Chamberlain of the King of Bhutan and Foreign Secretary of Bhutan were present, among others, during the ground breaking ceremony. Under this project, four buildings, namely-Chancery building, Ambassador's Residence, Officers' quarters and a multipurpose hall will be constructed, and the estimated completion time of the project is 18 months.



Bangladesh High Commission in Colombo Celebrated Armed Forces Day

Bangladesh High Commission in Colombo hosted a reception to celebrate the 52nd Armed Forces Day of Bangladesh. The reception was graced by the Defence Secretary of Sri Lanka, General Kamal Gunaratne (Rtd) as Chief Guest. The High Commissioner of India, Ambassador of Nepal, senior defense officials of Sri Lanka, diplomats and Defence Attaches/ Advisors of different diplomatic missions attended the reception.



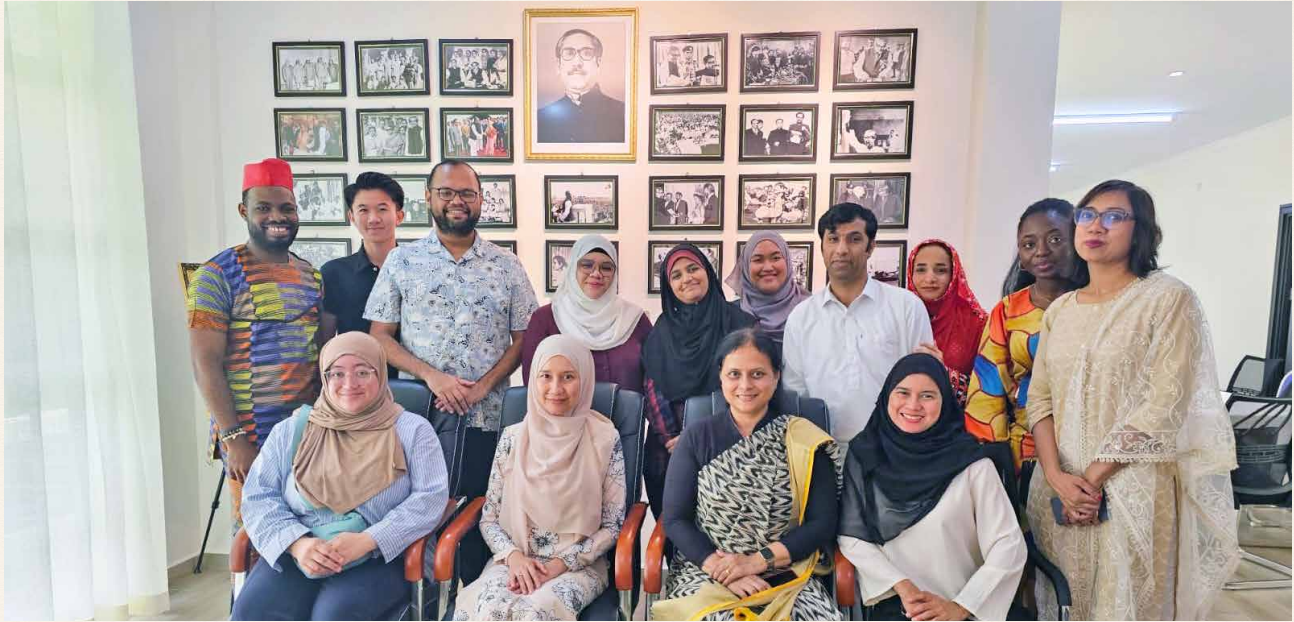


Bangladesh High Commission in Brunei Darussalam Organized a Seminar with International Students Association

Bangladesh High Commission in Brunei Darussalam held a Seminar with the International Students

Association of the largest University of Brunei (Universiti Brunei Darussalam) at the High Commission. The Vision of

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on world peace and prosperity was discussed by the High Commissioner.



Bangladeshi Girl Guides Visited Brunei

Two Bangladeshi Girl Guides and an Official of Girl Guides Association visited Brunei and the High Commissioner received them at the High Commission and gave them a briefing on Brunei - Bangladesh Cooperation.





Bangladesh High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam Met with Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Bangladesh High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam met with Pengiran Nor Hashima, Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brunei and had discussion about starting direct flight between Dhaka and Bandar Seri Begawan.



Bangladesh High Commission in Brunei Darussalam Donated Books to the University Technology of Brunei

The university technology of Brunei has a Bangladesh Corner in their library and the Bangladesh High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam donated books.





Bangladesh Ambassador Visited Public Universities in Yangon

Ambassador Dr. Md. Monwar Hossain, on separate days, visited the premier public universities in Yangon, namely, the University of Yangon, University of Foreign Languages, University of Education, Yangon University of Arts and Culture. During his visits, Ambassador met with the Rectors of the Universities along with the pro-rectors and dean of the universities.

The University authorities offered brief presentation about academic and other activities of the respective universities. Later, he visited various academic departments and central libraries of the Universities. Ambassador discussed about the opportunities for academic and research collaboration and student exchanges between the University of Yangon and premier

public universities in Bangladesh. The Ambassador, during his visit to University of Education, referring to Bangladesh's experience and expertise in promoting and upskilling in early childhood education, offered that Bangladesh would be happy to share Bangladesh's best practices in this field with Myanmar.



Bangladesh Ambassador Attended International Women's Forum in Uzbekistan

Bangladesh Ambassador to Uzbekistan Dr. Mohammad Monirul Islam represented Bangladesh at the International Women's Forum titled "Experience of Uzbekistan and member states of the Islamic Cooperation Organization in supporting women" held in Samarkand, Uzbekistan on 22 November 2023. In his remarks at the "Empowering women economically, ensuring their employment and supporting their entrepreneurship" session, Dr. Islam underlined the policies and programmes undertaken by the government in ensuring the meaningful participation of women in the overall development



of Bangladesh. Highlighting the impressive socio-economic progress Bangladesh has achieved under the

visionary leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, he briefed the audience of the phenomenal



contributions made and role played by the women in the economic success and growth of Bangladesh. He also reiterated the commitments of the government in further promoting women empowerment and women rights in all spheres of the society in realizing the "Vision

2041" to transform Bangladesh into a poverty free, hunger free, peaceful and prosperous country.

The Conference organised by the Committee of Family and Women under the Ministry of Employment and Poverty Reduction of the Republic of Uzbekistan was inaugurated by

Chairwoman of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan H.E. Ms. Tanzila Narbaeva along with the Deputy Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) for Humanitarian, Cultural and Social Affairs H.E. Dr. Tarig Ali Bakhit.

Bangladesh Ambassador Met Senate Chairperson in Uzbekistan

Ambassador of Bangladesh to Uzbekistan Dr. Mohammad Monirul Islam called on the Chairperson of the Senate of the Parliament of Uzbekistan (Oliy Majlis), Dr. Tanzila Narbayeva on 29 November 2024 at the Senate Hall. Ambassador Dr. Islam highlighted the growing bilateral relationship between Bangladesh and Uzbekistan and emphasized the importance of regular meetings and exchange of visits between members of the inter-parliamentary group consisting of parliamentarians from Bangladesh and Uzbekistan to further deepen the friendship and understanding between the peoples of two countries. Narrating Bangladesh's

socio-economic progress under the dynamic leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, particularly in infrastructure development, poverty alleviation, women's empowerment, tackling natural disaster and climate change impacts, the Ambassador highlighted the objectives, significance and initiatives taken by the government to implement "Vision-2041". Dr. Islam also apprised the Senate Chairman Dr. Tanzila Narbayeva on Bangladesh's political scenario, social and religious harmony and preparations for the upcoming 12th parliamentary elections.

Senator Dr. Tanzila Narbayeva lauded Bangladesh's progress in economic and social sectors, especially its strong role and leadership in women empowerment. Pointing to Bangladesh's impressive achievements in the textile and pharmaceutical sectors, she stressed the need for making the ongoing Bangladesh-Uzbekistan cooperation more meaningful and efficient in these two areas. She wished the upcoming parliamentary elections a success and was of the view to organise Parliament Members level visit between the two countries at mutually convenient time.





Bangladesh Embassy in Tokyo Organized Seminar on Skilled Human Resources

Bangladesh Embassy, Tokyo in collaboration with Japan International Trainee and Skilled Worker Cooperation Organization (JITCO) organized a Seminar on “Bangladesh-A Highly Potential Source Country of Skilled Human Resources for Japan” which was followed by a matching event titled “Matching between Supervising Organizations and Sending Organizations” at Toshi Kaikan in Tokyo on 06 November 2023. Nearly 350 participants from the Japanese companies and manpower recruiting organizations and the sending

organizations of Bangladesh were present at the event.

H.E. Ambassador of Bangladesh to Japan Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed made the welcome remark. In his welcome speech the Ambassador thanked the Japan Government for elevating the diplomatic relations between Bangladesh and Japan to “Strategic Partnership”. He also mentioned that along with diversified economic sectors’ cooperation now is the time to focus on the Human Resources as Bangladesh has a huge pool of skilled manpower that can be sent for overseas employment

while Japan has a growing demand of foreign workers. The Ambassador urged Japan’s manpower recruiting companies and agencies to recruit skilled workers from Bangladesh. Senior Vice President of JITCO also made a presentation on “Global Labor Market and Diversification of Foreign Human Resources”.

Some success stories of the Bangladeshi workers in Japan were screened before the audience which was followed by sharing of positive experience about Bangladeshi workers by three Japanese guests.



Bangladesh Ambassador Visited Nagasaki City Mayor in Japan

On 07 November 2023, H.E. Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed paid a courtesy call on the Mayor of Nagasaki City H.E. Mr. SUZUKI Shiro at the Nagasaki City Office. On arrival, H.E. Ambassador and his delegation was accorded a warm welcome by the City officials. Mayor received H.E. Ambassador and exchanged gifts. The two sides discussed issues of mutual interest in





the backdrop of the elevated bilateral relations of a “Strategic Partnership” which was announced during the official visit of the Hon’ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to Japan in April 2023. The Mayor of Nagasaki showed his interest for more collaboration in IT following

Miyazaki model and human resources from Bangladesh in potential sectors in Nagasaki.

H.E. Ambassador informed the Mayor of the inauguration of Biman Bangladesh direct flight on Dhaka-Narita-Dhaka. Mentioning that Bangladesh is developing 100

Economic Zones and out of that has dedicated one Special Economic Zone exclusively for Japan, the Ambassador welcomed a business delegation from Nagasaki to visit Bangladesh to explore the huge potential existing in the country.

Bangladesh Ambassador Urged Japanese Investment in Bangladesh PPP Projects



H.E. Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed spoke on "Expectations for Bangladesh-Japan Joint PPP Projects" at the 11th General Meeting of the Council for International Development of Aviation Structure in the Hall Room of the Ministry

of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT), Japan on 20 November 2023. He requested Japanese companies in infrastructure sector to take the opportunity to invest in PPP projects in Bangladesh. His Excellency Mr. Ryusyou KATO,

Parliamentary Secretary for Land, Infrastructure and Transport, Mr. Kosei SHINDO, Chairman of the Council, Mr. Tatsuya SUGAWARA and Mr. Hiroyuki TSUBAI, Vice Chairman of the Council also spoke at the event.

Bangladesh Ambassador to Libya Met Libyan Deputy Prime Minister

H.E. Major General Abul Hasnat Mohammad Khairul Bashar, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Libya, called on H.E. Engr. Ramadhan Aboujanah, Hon’ble Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Health of

the Government of National Unity of the State of Libya on 30 November 2023. The meeting focused on various aspects aimed at enhancing bilateral cooperation in the health sector between the two countries.

The Ambassador expressed gratitude to the Hon’ble Minister for recruiting Bangladeshi doctors and nurses, underscoring Bangladesh's commitment to providing healthcare professionals during Libya's time of



need. The Ambassador also conveyed that the Embassy is fully facilitating the recruitment process, ensuring complete support.

The Ambassador highlighted the remarkable growth of the pharmaceutical industry in Bangladesh and proposed exploring cooperation between Libya and Bangladesh in this sector. The

Hon'ble Minister appreciated the proposal and expressed Libya's interest in collaborative partnerships in pharmaceuticals.

During the meeting, the Ambassador also discussed some issues related to the newly recruited Bangladeshi doctors and nurses, as well as existing Bangladeshi healthcare professionals working in Libya. He

requested expedition of residence visas and facilitation of remittance to encourage more professionals.

The Hon'ble Minister assured to take necessary measures in resolving the issues raised by the Ambassador. Both sides expressed their commitment to further strengthen bilateral cooperation in the health sector.



Bangladesh Embassy Repatriated 253 Detained Bangladeshis from Libya

All efforts are being made by the Embassy to ensure the welfare of Bangladeshi citizens detained in various detention centers in Libya as well as who are in danger, helpless, and victims of trafficking. Specifically, the Embassy is working diligently with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and local authorities in Libya to facilitate the safe repatriation of these Bangladeshis. To this end, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Libya, Major General Abul Hasnat

Mohammad Khairul Bashar, recently held a meeting with the Hon'ble Deputy Minister of Interior of Libya and the Acting Head of Mission of IOM Libya, seeking necessary cooperation.

As a result, on 27 and 29 November 2023, a total of 253 Bangladeshis detained in the Tripoli detention center were successfully repatriated with the assistance of IOM. The Ambassador met and bid farewell to the Bangladeshi citizens awaiting their return at the reception hall of

the Directorate of Combatting Illegal Migration (DCIM) in Libya. He informed the returning Bangladeshis about the risks and dangers associated with illegal immigration, emphasizing the financial losses, emotional trauma, and potential loss of life that illegal migrants often face. The Ambassador urged the returnees to take legal action against those involved in their smuggling to Libya upon their return to Bangladesh.

During the farewell, the Ambassador encouraged the returning Bangladeshis



to pursue legal immigration in the future. He highlighted the recently signed memorandum of understanding between Bangladesh and Libya on mutual cooperation

in the field of manpower, which aims to protect the rights of legally employed workers in Libya. The Ambassador also urged the returnees to raise awareness about the dangers

of illegal immigration, particularly among their friends, relatives and local communities in Bangladesh.



Bangladesh Deputy High Commission Addressed Karachi Diplomatic Corps

Bangladesh Deputy High Commission in Karachi addressed the Diplomatic Corps in Karachi on 07 November 2023. The Consul General and Deputy High Commissioner of different countries who are resident in Karachi were present. The Consul General of Oman, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Republic

of Korea, Japan, Indonesia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, the Russian Federation, Kuwait, Iran, Malaysia, China, Thailand, France, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and Qatar were present. Deputy High Commissioner highlighted the diplomatic engagement and success of Bangladesh. He also focused

on the impressive socio-economic progress of Bangladesh. Diplomats were deeply impressed to listen about the outstanding development stories of Bangladesh and profoundly appreciated socio-economic development of Bangladesh.





Bangladesh Deputy High Commission Showcased Bangladesh's Development Journey in Karachi

Bangladesh Deputy High Commission in Karachi arranged a program titled “Showcase Bangladesh: The Development Journey of Bangladesh” at the Chancery on 24 November 2023. Around 120 persons were present at the Showcase Bangladesh Program.

Welcoming the visitors at the Mission, the Deputy High Commissioner elaborated on the success stories of Bangladesh. He categorically mentioned that under the charismatic and dynamic leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Bangladesh has become a ‘Role Model’ of socio-economic development in the world.

Deputy High Commissioner added that Bangladesh is currently among the five fastest growing economies

in the world, ranking 35th in terms of GDP. He further added that Bangladesh has fulfilled all the criteria for the graduation to developing country from the LDC status and has been confirmed to be graduated from the LDC in 2026. The present per capita income of Bangladesh is USD 2824. Deputy High Commissioner further briefed on mega projects such as the Padma Bridge, Dhaka Metro Rail, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Karnaphuli River Tunnel, Elevated Expressway in Dhaka, the 3rd Terminal at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant, 564 Model Masjid and Islamic Cultural Centers across Bangladesh, Deep-Sea Port, Bangabandhu Satellite-1, Free Text

Book distribution and so forth.

Deputy High Commissioner S. M. Mahbulul Alam mentioned that Bangladesh is the 2nd in RMG production and export. He further added that over 15 million Bangladesh nationals live in over 180 countries and Bangladesh is the 8th in Remittance receipt amounting over US\$25 billion a year. Bangladesh will be a trillion dollar Economy and the 9th largest consumer market in the world by 2041. The participants at the “Showcase Bangladesh: The Development Journey of Bangladesh” were deeply impressed to know about the outstanding development stories of Bangladesh and profoundly appreciated socio-economic development of Bangladesh.



Bangladesh Consulate General in Hong Kong Showcased Arts and Culture in Asian Ethnic Cultural Performance

The Consulate General of Bangladesh in Hong Kong participated in the ‘Asia+ Festival: Asian Ethnic Cultural

Performance’ organized by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department of Hong Kong SAR on 12 November

2023. This year’s theme of the event was “Charm of Hues- National Costume and Headdress Exhibition”.



Twenty three countries showcased their arts and culture through variety of dances, musical instrument performance, fashion show and martial art performances. The Secretary for Culture, Sports, and Tourism of Hong Kong, Deputy Commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of China in Hong Kong, the Director of LCSD inaugurated the event. Ms. Israt Ara, Consul General of Bangladesh was invited in the opening ceremony of the

event as the officiating guest.

At the initiative of the Consulate, Bangladeshi students studying in different universities in Hong Kong performed a dance and a fashion show displaying different traditional costumes and headdress of Bangladesh. The dance performance and fashion show of Bangladesh captivated the audience. Besides, the Consulate installed a booth in the exhibition section of the event. In line with

the theme of the event, Bangladeshi headdress such as pagri, orna, tupi, mathal and other products including organic tea, handicraft, jute products, nakshi katha etc. were displayed in the booth. Local people including children, students, media personnel, foreigners showed interest to explore rich and diverse culture of Bangladesh. A Bangladeshi bridal costume was also displayed in the Exhibition Hall.



Bangladesh Consul General to Hong Kong Highlighted Partnership in ICT between Bangladesh and Hong Kong



The Consul General of Bangladesh in Hong Kong, Ms. Israt Ara delivered a presentation on the topic “Promote

Partnership between Bangladesh and Hong Kong in ICT for a Knowledge-based Economy” in the ‘Consul

General Talk Series’ at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University on 21 November 2023. More than sixty



students, teachers & staffs, Bangladeshi community members attended this event.

Ms. Ara shed light on how ICT can serve as a catalyst for the socio-economic transformation in societies and create business opportunities in the changing global economy. She also further highlighted the transition from a ‘Digital Bangladesh’ to a ‘Smart Bangladesh’ by 2041 under the visionary leadership of Hon’ble Prime

Minister Sheikh Hasina. She also added the achievement of Bangladesh in the ICT sector. Referring to the bilateral relations between Bangladesh and Hong Kong and considering the position of Hong Kong as the Global Financial Hub and & Innovation Centre, she also sought cooperation from Hong Kong in collaborative research, human resource development, technology transfer, cybersecurity and more.

Prof. Christopher Chao, Polytechnic

University Vice President (Research and Innovation) emphasized the importance of partnerships between Bangladesh and Hong Kong in contributing to the growth of a knowledge-based economy in his welcoming speech. He also referred to the MoU signed earlier this year between Polytechnic University and Jahangirnagar University on collaboration on education and research sector.

Bangladesh Deputy High Commission in Chennai Launched e-Passport Service



On 02 November 2023, ‘e-Passport’ has officially been inaugurated in Bangladesh Deputy High Commission, Chennai with enthusiasm and fervour. The Launching ceremony was graced by Mr. Venkatachalam IFS, Head

of Ministry of External Affairs Branch Secretariat in Chennai, Mr. Kovendhan, Regional Passport Officer in Chennai, Mr. Arun Sakthi Kumar, Head of Foreigner Regional Registration Offices in Chennai. Mr. Choza Nachiyar, President of Tamil

Nadu Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Sathyamoorthy, Chairman of Indian Chamber of Commerce, CEOs and high officials from prominent health facilities in Tamil Nadu, members of e-Passport installation team from Dhaka, diplomats, educationists,



professionals and Bangladeshi nationals living in Chennai also attended the program.

Bangladeshi nationals staying in five states of South India, namely Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, as well as Union

Territories such as Puducherry, Daman and Diu can now apply for e-Passport in the Mission.

The initiation of e-Passport and Automatic Border Control is a milestone of the current government's continued effort to the development

initiatives. Squadron Leader Hasib Imran, Deputy Project Director of E-Passport installation team from Dhaka, provided insights into the progress of e-Passport installation in Bangladesh and Bangladeshi Missions abroad.

Bangladesh Embassy in Manama Arranged Special Screening of 'Mujib: The Making of a Nation'

The Bangladesh Embassy in Manama organised a special screening of the biographical film titled “Mujib: The Making of a Nation” on 09 November 2023 in collaboration with Epix Cinema, a renowned and state-of-the-art cinema hall in Manama.

Around 250 invited guests attended the event, prominent among which were Ambassadors, CDAs, and various other diplomats from different Foreign Missions as well as many high-level

officials from the Bahraini Ministry of Foreign Affairs as well as their Ministry of Labour, esteemed businesspersons, journalists, officers and officials of the Embassy, and other eminent personalities.

Following the screening of the biopic, several prominent members of the Bangladeshi expat community expressed their views and feelings by stating how the film perfectly portrayed the life of our Father of the Nation,

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman as well as his many contributions and sacrifices for our nation during the Great Liberation War. They expressed their sincere gratitude to the Embassy for organising this special event to give foreigners an opportunity to learn about the history of our nation's history and the selfless contributions made by Bangabandhu because of the love he had for his country and its people.



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