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Prime Minister attends the Fourth BIMSTEC Summit



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina attends the Fourth BIMSTEC Summit in Kathmandu

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina led a high level Bangladesh delegation to the 4th BIMSTEC Summit held in Kathmandu, Nepal, on 30-31 August 2018. The theme of the Summit was "Towards a Peaceful, Prosperous and Sustainable Bay of Bengal Region". Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in her speech informed the leaders about the achievements of Bangladesh in various socio-economic sectors in the past ten years, as well as she urged to adopt strategy to combat common problems such as poverty, climate change impact and terrorism by fostering regional cooperation. In the context of the changing global scenario, she urged all members of BIMSTEC to work together through reorganizing 14 areas of cooperation under the three main clusters on priority basis namely 'Sustainable Development', 'Security and Stability' and 'People to People Contact'. In this Summit, participation of Prime Minister, her visionary speech and active and strong position of Bangladesh delegation in contemporary regional and international issues were appreciated by

other Leaders of the BIMSTEC Member States.

To ensure energy security in the BIMSTEC region a "Memorandum of Understanding on the Establishment of BIMSTEC Grid Interconnection" was signed. Besides, the Summit adopted 48-points Summit Declaration which emphasized

on the collective efforts for peace, prosperity and sustainable development in the BIMSTEC region. To make BIMSTEC more effective, decisions were taken to form a Permanent Working Committee, formulation of all necessary legal frameworks and other legal documents, such as BIMSTEC Charter and restructuring and rationalizing the existing 14 areas of cooperation. Prior to the Summit, the 16th BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting was held on 29 August 2018 and the 19th BIMSTEC Senior Officials' Meeting at the level of Foreign Secretary was held on 28 August 2018. Foreign Minister A H Mahmood Ali, MP led the Bangladesh delegation in the Ministerial Meeting.



Foreign Minister A H Mahmood Ali, MP attends the 16th BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting





Foreign Secretary Md. Shahidul Haque attends the 19th BIMSTEC Senior Officials' Meeting

Foreign Secretary (Senior Secretary) Md. Shahidul Haque led the Bangladesh delegation in the SOM. A "Special Session of the BIMSTEC Senior Officials' Meeting" was held in Kathmandu, Nepal on 11 August 2018.

Foreign Minister A H Mahmood Ali pays tribute to Atal Bihari Vajpayee

Foreign Minister A H Mahmood Ali, MP attended the funeral of the former Prime Minister of India Atal Bihari Vajpayee on August 17, 2018 afternoon in New Delhi. He offered flower wreath on behalf of the Government and people of Bangladesh at the funeral to show respect to one of the towering leaders of India.



Foreign Minister A H Mahmood Ali, MP places flower wreath at the funeral of former Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee

In the evening, Foreign Minister A H Mahmood Ali, MP met the Indian External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and personally conveyed the condolence on behalf of the Prime Minister of Bangladesh. Earlier, the Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina, in her condolence message, expressed her deep shock at the sad demise of Vajpayee. She said, he was "our great

friend and highly respected in Bangladesh." The King of Bhutan, Ministers from Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Mauritius attended the funeral ceremony. Among the Indian leadership, President, Vice President, Prime Minister, other Cabinet Ministers of India and other dignitaries attended the funeral ceremony.

Foreign Minister Abul Hasan Mahmood Ali leads Bangladesh delegation during official visit to Myanmar from 9-12 August 2018



Foreign Minister including some of his delegation visit to see the site preparations in Rakhine State

Foreign Minister Abul Hasan Mahmood Ali, MP visited Myanmar from 9-12 August 2018 at the invitation of his counterpart U Kyaw Tint Swe, Union Minister of the Office of State Counsellor of Myanmar. Foreign Minister led a six member delegations who were taken to the northern Rakhine State to show the site preparations undergoing for the Rohingyas.

At the very beginning of the visit, Foreign Minister met with the Union Minister of Myanmar which was later followed by Ministerial level bilateral meeting. In the same afternoon Foreign Minister called on the Vice President of the Union of Myanmar U Mint Swe. During this official visit, the Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar and the leaders of the Interfaith Dialogue Group of Myanmar also called on him.

During the Ministerial level bilateral meeting, Myanmar side also briefed about the progress on the preparations for receiving the forcibly displaced Rohingyas who were currently sheltered in Bangladesh. Besides, the two sides agreed on a number of key issues including border security, counter-terrorism, fight against narcotic drug trafficking, etc. The Union Minister met with the Foreign Minister at the hotel before his departure from Myanmar in the afternoon of 12 August 2018."





UK Minister of State for International Development Alistair Burt calls on State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shahriar Alam

'Bangladesh response to the Rohingya crisis was extraordinary', said the UK FCO-DFID Joint Minister of State Alistair Burt, MP during a meeting with State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shahriar Alam, MP at his office. The UK Minister was debriefing his Bangladesh counterpart on his visit to the Rohingya camps in Cox's bazaar earlier in the day. Minister Burt expressed satisfaction at the noticeably improved physical infrastructure in the camps, including strong coordination between different UN and other agencies. He also deeply appreciated the sacrifices made by the host community in welcoming and sharing scarce resources and opportunities with the Rohingya people. State Minister for Foreign Affairs thanked the UK government and people for all out support for



UK Minister of State for International Development Alistair Burt, MP calls on State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shahriar Alam, MP the Rohingya crisis, including strong role at the UN Security Council. He expressed optimism that upcoming UN General Assembly would provide an opportunity to carry forward the international efforts to find concrete ways to resolve this protracted crisis.

Foreign Ministry's high officials visit the Mausoleum of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at Tungipara



Foreign Secretary and high officials of the Ministry place floral wreath at the Mausoleum

A high level delegation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, led by Md. Shahidul Haque, Foreign Secretary (Senior Secretary), paid a visit to the Mausoleum of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at Tungipara in Gopalganj on 26 August 2018. Foreign Secretary was accompanied by the senior officers of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and their spouses and children. Foreign Secretary and Ministry of Foreign Affairs Officials prayed for the salvation of the departed souls and also prayed for the peace and prosperity of the country. They also visited the ancestral home of Bangabandhu and the adjacent memorial museum and signed the visitor's book.





Foreign Ministry's high officials place flower wreath in remembrance of 15 August 2018

A high delegation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs led by Foreign Secretary Md. Shahidul Haque (Senior Secretary) placed floral wreath before the Mural of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at the Bangabandhu Memorial Museum in Dhaka in observance of the National Mourning Day, 15 August 2018.



Ministry of Foreign Affairs Officials place flower wreath at Bangabandhu's Mural

Bangladesh Embassy in Beijing reaches out to the Chinese students

As a part of its promotional activities, the Embassy of Bangladesh in Beijing has been organizing Liaojie Mengjiala (Explore Bangladesh) programme. The event is mainly targeted to local Chinese people, especially Chinese students. The Embassy held one such reach out event on 16 August 2018 at the Embassy premises. Around 60 students from different provinces of China participated at the event along with their teachers. The students were given a brief overview about Bangladesh-its location, history, culture, food and heritage. They were also briefed about Embassy activities and China-Bangladesh cooperation.

Open Day at the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

Bangladesh Embassy in Berlin participated in the Federal Government's Open day at the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) on 25th August 2018. Martin Jäger, State Secretary of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development inaugurated the event. Hundreds of visitors from different Embassies and institutions in Berlin visited the stall; interacted and discussed with the Embassy officials on various topics related to Bangladesh with special focus on the trade, exportable and business etc. The visitors were introduced and entertained with traditional Bangladeshi snacks and drinks.

Söllhuber Foundation of Kronberg, Germany donates €25,500 for blind children of Bangladesh

On 4th August 2018, the Söllhuber Foundation of Kronberg, Germany (a non-profit charity organization) organized a Summer Charity Festival to raise fund through auctions for treatment of poor blind children of Bangladesh. Imtiaz Ahmed, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Germany and his spouse Daisy Ahmed attended the event and participated in the fund raising activities through donating a traditional Bangladeshi Nakshi Katha.

A total amount of €25,500 has been collected by the Foundation and this will be spent for the treatment of poor blind children of Bangladesh through a hospital in Mymensingh (Dr. K. Zaman BNSB Eye Hospital). A total of 3,000 children have been treated last year and 1600 artificial lenses were donated by this Foundation for this charity treatment purpose. Mentionable, this organization has been continuing its humanitarian charity work in Bangladesh for last several years.



MoU signed between Bangladesh and Nepal on Power Sector Cooperation

State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Nasrul Hamid, MP visited Nepal from 9-11 August 2018. During his visit, he held bilateral consultations with his counterpart, Barsha Man Pun, Minister of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation of Nepal and signed an MoU on Power Sector Cooperation between Bangladesh and Nepal. The MoU will facilitate cooperation in the power/energy sector, particularly for import of power from Nepal to Bangladesh. During the visit of the State Minister, Bangladesh Embassy in Kathmandu organized an interactive session on Power sector cooperation between Bangladesh and Nepal Minister of State for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources delivered the keynote speech in the session. The event was attended by stakeholders in the power/energy sector of Nepal including government officials, private sector hydro-power developers, investors, business persons, think tanks and media representatives.

Bangladesh High Commission organizes 'Networking with Bangladesh students in Singapore'

Bangladesh High Commission in Singapore organized an event titled "Networking with Bangladeshi Students in Singapore" at the High Commission Auditorium on 11 August 2018. More than 50 Bangladeshi students studying in different Universities in Singapore as well as faculty of Bangladeshi origin teaching in

various Singapore Universities attended the networking event. The event was interactive where students and faculty interacted with the officials of the High Commission and exchanged views on issues concerning their academic life in Singapore.

Bangladesh Missions abroad observed National Mourning Day on 15 August 2018

All the Bangladesh Missions abroad observed the National Mourning Day and the 43rd anniversary of martyrdom of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on 15 August 2018. All the Missions abroad organized various events, including hoisting the National Flag at half-mast by the Missions' Head, seminars, discussions, programs, photography exhibitions, etc. Bangladesh community and dignitaries of the respective host countries attended the events. A gallery of photographs of observance of the National Mourning Day by some of the Bangladesh Missions abroad is presented next page:



Observance of National Mourning Day 2018



Bangladesh Mission Ankara



Bangladesh Mission Berlin



Bangladesh Mission The Hague



Bangladesh Mission Beijing



Bangladesh Mission Paris



Bangladesh Mission Islamabad

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