



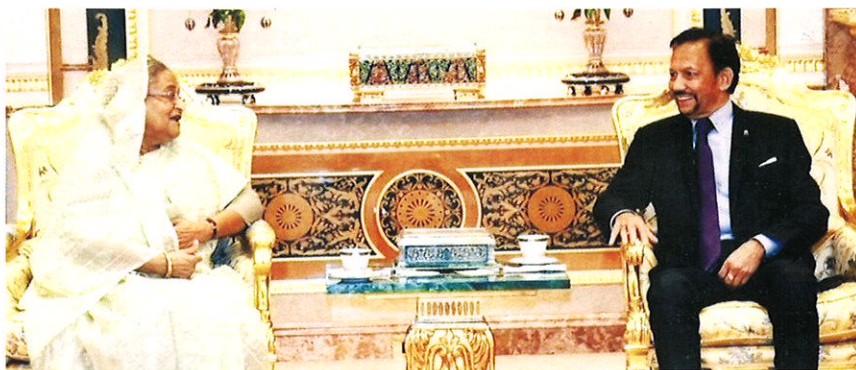
FOREIGN OFFICE

BRIEFING NOTES

THE MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE MINISTRY
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DHAKA, BANGLADESH

Issue: April 2019

■ Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina visits Brunei Darussalam



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina calls on Brunei Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah at his official residence in Bandar Seri Begawan

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina paid her maiden official visit to Brunei Darussalam from 21-23 April 2019 at the invitation of Brunei Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah. Foreign Minister, Agriculture Minister, Private Industry and Investment Advisor to Prime Minister and State Ministers of Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources, Ministry of fisheries and Livestock and Ministry of Culture accompanied her during the visit.

Crown Prince of Brunei Darussalam Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah greeted Bangladesh Prime Minister, a red carpet was rolled out for her with a ceremonial motorcade escorting her to Empire Hotel and Country Club.

During the visit Prime Minister had a welcome meeting with Brunei Sultan and his Royal family members at the Royal Palace. Later on, Prime Minister and Brunei Sultan led respective delegations in a bilateral meeting. In that meeting Prime Minister made specific proposals of bilateral cooperation in the field of trade, investment, food, agriculture, fisheries, energy, information and communication technology and aviation. Sultan acclaimed Bangladesh government's role in different important regional and international issues including the UN peacekeeping mission. Six bilateral memoranda of understanding were

inked following the meeting. The MoUs are on scientific and technical cooperation on agriculture; cooperation in the field of fisheries; cooperation in the field of livestock; cultural and arts; and LNG supplies. Both countries also exchanged diplomatic letters for visa exemption for diplomatic and official passport holders.

Prime Minister also attended Bangladesh-Brunei Joint Business Forum, a community event and a Royal dinner. She laid the foundation stone of new Chancery Building of Bangladesh High Commission. The visit was very successful and it took the bilateral relationship to a new height in different dimensions of mutual cooperation.

■ Prime Minister of Bhutan pays state visit to Bangladesh

At the invitation of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Prime Minister of Bhutan, Lyonchhen Dr. Lotay Tshering paid a state visit to Bangladesh from 12-15 April 2019. He was welcomed by the Prime Minister of Bangladesh on arrival with ceremonial reception.

The Prime Minister of Bhutan laid floral wreath at the National Martyrs' Memorial, Savar. He also paid tribute at the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Memorial Museum.

The official talks between Bangladesh and Bhutan, led by the two Prime Ministers, were held on 13 April 2019 in an atmosphere of great warmth and cordiality reflecting the excellent bilateral relations and age-old friendship



Prime Minister of Bhutan Lyonchhen Dr. Lotay Tshering calls on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her office





between the two countries. During the meeting, the two leaders expressed satisfaction at the excellent state of bilateral relations whose strong foundations were laid by the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and His Majesty Jigme Dorji Wangchuck. Dr. Lotay Tshering paid a courtesy call on Md. Abdul Hamid, President of Bangladesh.

Foreign Minister, Minister for Health and family Welfare, Minister for Commerce and State Minister for Shipping

paid respective courtesy calls on the Prime Minister of Bhutan.

During the visit, Dr. Lotay Tshering paid a visit to his alma mater, Mymensingh Medical College and had fruitful interactions with the teachers and students there.

After a four-day official visit to Bangladesh, Prime Minister of Bhutan left for Bhutan on 15 April 2019.

Public Diplomacy Initiatives

External Publicity Wing of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been pursuing public and soft power diplomacy both home and abroad through different initiatives. Among those 'Visit Bangladesh' is noteworthy as the Wing has been successfully conducting the programme since 2010. In the last couple of years since 2016, eight such visits were organized and around 200 foreign dignitaries visited Bangladesh under this programme. Many positive and powerful write-ups, columns, op-ed, articles, etc. have come out in the media of their respective countries. Participants of 'Visit Bangladesh' programme held in April 2019 published reports in their respective media after returning to their own countries. One such report titled 'Enterprising Bangladesh - Innovative and Industrious' was published in the April/May issue of a South African magazine named 'The Diplomatic Society'. Another one was published on 24 April in Mindanao Times of the Philippines titled 'Cultural Potpourri: Bangladesh on the Rise'.



Two positive reports published in two foreign media in April 2019

Foreign Minister hosts dinner for foreign dignitaries



Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP delivers welcome speech at the dinner at State Guest House Jamuna for the foreign dignitaries under 'Visit Bangladesh' Programme

Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP hosted a dinner on 18 April 2019 at the State Guest House Jamuna in honour of the foreign dignitaries who participated in the Visit Bangladesh Programme held from 13 to 18 April 2019. 48 prominent writers, retired diplomats, retired civil servants, media personnel and members of intelligentsia from 26 countries around the world visited Bangladesh under the programme.

The dinner was also attended by Cabinet Ministers, State Ministers, MPs, Secretaries and other high officials of the government along with local civil society members and prominent journalists. Foreign Minister delivered welcome speech after which a lively interactive session was held during the dinner.





■ Indian High Commissioner calls on Foreign Minister

Newly appointed Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Riva Ganguly Das called on Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP at his office on 3 April 2019. Foreign Minister welcomed her to Bangladesh wishing her success assuring all out cooperation from the government of Bangladesh during her tenure. They discussed issues related to bilateral relations. Foreign Minister termed the relation between Bangladesh and India as 'Historic' which has grown mature in course of time relying upon mutual trust. He mentioned that various important issues like land boundary, maritime boundary, etc. have been solved through effective dialogue between the two countries which can be followed as 'model' in the world. High Commissioner handed over a letter from Indian External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj in which she mentioned that the present bilateral relations between Bangladesh and India was passing a 'Golden Chapter' in true sense.



Indian High Commissioner Riva Ganguly Das calls on Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP at his office

■ Thai Foreign Minister meets with Bangladesh Foreign Minister



Thai Foreign Minister Don Pramudwinai meets with Bangladesh Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP in Dhaka

Don Pramudwinai, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, in the capacity of the Chair of ASEAN, paid an official visit to Bangladesh on 3-4 April 2019 with a view to supporting efforts to address the issue of displaced persons from Rakhine State in Bangladesh. During the visit, the Thai

Foreign Minister met with Foreign Minister Dr. A.K. Abdul Momen, and the representatives of the local UN agencies- UNHCR, WFP and IOM. During the meeting between the two Foreign Ministers, Bangladesh Foreign Minister expressed his country's confidence in Thailand's role as the Chair of ASEAN and a close friend of Bangladesh in addressing the issue of forcibly displaced persons from Rakhine State, particularly in ensuring the repatriation of the said displaced persons to Rakhine State in a safe, dignified and sustainable manner. Both sides further exchanged views on possible ASEAN's role in supporting the repatriation process. On the bilateral relations, both sides reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthening their cooperation in several mutually beneficial areas, particularly in the economic and human resource development. Bangladesh Foreign Minister also expressed appreciation to the Thai side for the inauguration of Bangabandhu Chair Professor at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) in honour of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

■ US Ambassador to Bangladesh calls on Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen

US Ambassador to Bangladesh Earl Robert Miller met with Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP today at the latter's office on 4 April 2019. Foreign Minister noted that ties between Bangladesh and the USA are strong. The two countries are close to one another politically, economically and commercially. He observed that USA has the scope to invest more in the gas, oil and energy sectors of Bangladesh.

Foreign Minister said, Bangladesh welcomes forward looking connectivity and infrastructure projects in the region. He also noted that maritime sector of the region could be harnessed to improved business connectivity and shared prosperity of the people. The upcoming meeting



US Ambassador Earl Robert Miller calls on Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP at his office



between Bangladesh Foreign Minister and the US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo which is scheduled to take place in Washington DC on 8 April 2019 was also discussed at the meeting. Foreign Minister thanked the US Secretary of State for the invitation to Washington DC for bilateral talks.

US Ambassador expressed the hope that meeting between Bangladesh Foreign Minister and US Secretary of State

would be very fruitful. He assured, USA will stand beside Bangladesh on the Rohingya issues and the US investors consider Bangladesh as an important business destination. He noted that bilateral trade between Bangladesh and the USA had expanded in recent years. He was appreciative of Bangladesh's socio-economic progress.

Foreign Minister welcomes UK's decision for the continuation of EBA facility

Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP welcomed UK's decision to continue to extend Everything But Arms (EBA) facility to Bangladesh even after the BREXIT. He also expressed hope that UK's support in terms of preferential access would remain in place for Bangladesh's post-LDC period. He said this as the new British High Commissioner to Bangladesh Robert Chatterton Dickson called on him on 04 April 2019. Foreign Minister congratulated him on his appointment as the new British High Commissioner and assured him of best of cooperation during his tenure in Bangladesh.

Foreign Minister recalled UK's full support during Bangladesh's Liberation War and the historic meeting between Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Prime Minister Sir Edward Heath at No 10 Downing Street on 08 January 1972, right after his release from Pakistan jail after our independence. He briefed the High Commissioner about the 11th Parliamentary Elections that was held in



British High Commissioner Robert Chatterton Dickson calls on Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP at his office

Bangladesh on 30 December 2018 in a festive and peaceful atmosphere. He also thanked British Prime Minister Theresa May and other global leaders for congratulating Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her cabinet on re-election.

Rohingya issue stressed during Foreign Minister's meeting with US dignitaries



Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP meets with US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo at the US State Department

Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP met with US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo on 08 April 2019 at the US State Department. This is the first meeting between the two leaders since their assumption of office in respective governments. Issues featuring in the meeting were: repatriation of the Rohingyas and creation of adequate

international pressure on Myanmar in that respect, deportation of Bangabandhu's killer Rashed Chowdhury from USA to Bangladesh, shared vision of a Free and Open Indo-Pacific, US investments in Bangladesh, duty and quota free access of Bangladesh's garments products in the US market and US-Bangladesh partnership in multiple sectors.

On the Rohingya issue, the US Secretary of State re-assured that the one million plus forcibly displaced Myanmar nationals have to return to Myanmar without any form of fear and persecution. Foreign Minister informed that Bangladesh at its own expense had developed the island "Bhashanchar" into a livable place in which one lac Rohingyas are planned to be relocated in coordination with UN agencies and different aid groups. He sought US support to the creation of a safe zone in Rakhine State monitored by international human rights groups.

Regarding deportation of Bangabandhu's self-confessed and convicted killer Rashed Chowdhury from the USA, the Bangladesh Foreign Minister pointed out that he is fleeing/ from justice. This is essential to carry out a vital common agenda of both countries pertaining to Counter-terrorism and Countering-Violent Extremism and upholding rule of law.





Both leaders agreed that for greater prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region, vital energy and infrastructure projects need to be implemented on regional partnership basis. In that respect, leaders of the region need to work together on issues such as governance, accountability, rule of law and maritime security.

Foreign Minister stated, Bangladesh is lauded internationally for its impressive development journey. He sought more investment from the USA in the oil and gas sector and US presence in the Special Economic Zones. He also sought US support to the candidature of Bangladesh in the upcoming election to the post of Deputy Director General of International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP met with Senator Christopher Murphy and USAID Administrator Ambassador Mark Green on 9 April 2019. Rohingya issue was the key focus of the Bangladesh Minister's discussion with the US senior official and lawmaker.

At the meeting with the USAID Administrator, Foreign Minister thanked USA for standing beside the Rohingyas

with material help as well as political support. He said that the problem was created by Myanmar and the solution lies with Myanmar too. It is extremely critical to create international pressure on the Myanmar military so that they stop persecution on the Rohingyas and create conducive environment to facilitate the latter's safe return. He urged upon the US administration to solicit support on Rohingya issues from the countries who maintain close economic and commercial ties with Myanmar and together create pressure on Myanmar to take back its nationals from Bangladesh as per agreements signed. Mr. Green reassured Dr. Momen that a peaceful resolution to the Rohingya issue is not just Bangladesh's concern rather it is a responsibility of the global community. He said that USAID will continue financial support to the Rohingyas and the host community. He thanked the Government of Bangladesh for its generosity and compassion. Dr. Momen briefed Ambassador Green about relocation of one lac Rohingyas from Cox's Bazar to Bhashanchar, an island which Bangladesh made habitable at own expense. He said, the Rohingyas will have livelihood opportunities in Bhashanchar.

■ Russia expresses solidarity with Bangladesh on Rohingya issues

Russia expressed solidarity with Bangladesh on Rohingya issues and reiterated to continue its supports including humanitarian assistance. The Rohingya issues were discussed in detailed during the bilateral talks between Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP and his Russian counterpart Sergey Lavrov held in Moscow on 29 April 2019. During the meeting, Bangladesh Foreign Minister briefed his Russian counterpart on the status of 1.1 million forcibly displaced Myanmar nationals, the Rohingyas, who have taken temporary shelter in Bangladesh. He sought active support of the Russian Federation in expediting the process of repatriation of these displaced people by encouraging Myanmar to create a conducive environment in the Rakhine state for return of the Rohingya. Russian Foreign Minister welcomed the idea of involving ASEAN in the repatriation process.

Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP, held official talks, in a most warm and friendly atmosphere, with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov in Moscow. This is the first official visit of the present Bangladesh Foreign Minister to Moscow and the third as a whole at the invitation of the Russian Foreign Minister. The two Foreign Ministers took stock of the various aspects of bilateral ties as well as discussed important regional and multilateral issues of mutual interest.

During the talk, Bangladesh Foreign Minister reiterated the strong admiration of the people of Bangladesh for the Russian Federation due to the valued support and contribution received from the people of the then Soviet Union during the Liberation War in 1971 and for the rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts after the independence. Both the Foreign Ministers expressed deep satisfaction over the current progress of bilateral engagements between the two friendly countries.



Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP meets his Russian counterpart Sergey Lavrov in Moscow

Bangladesh Foreign Minister put emphasis on the initiatives of the two countries to boost the volume of bilateral trade at the expected level. He urged the Russian investors and companies to enter into joint ventures or 100 percent owned business ventures in the 100 special economic zones, which are currently being set up in Bangladesh as well as in High-Tech Parks. He also sought support from Russia for duty-free quota-free access of Bangladesh's products to the Russian market and also in the member states of the Eurasian Economic Union. Russian Foreign Minister informed that Economic forum in Saint Petersburg would be the ideal platform for Bangladesh to attract Russian and foreign investors. A memorandum of Cooperation between the Government of Bangladesh and the Eurasian Economic Commission is expected to be inked soon.



Bangladesh condemns the horrific terror attack on 21st April 2019 in Sri Lanka

In the wake of series of bomb explosions on churches and hotels in different cities of Sri Lanka, the President, the Prime Minister, and the Foreign Minister sent messages of condolence to the high dignitaries of the Government of Sri Lanka. In their messages President and Prime Minister expressed condolences for those who lost their lives in the series bomb attacks and wished quick recovery of those who were injured in the attacks. Prime Minister reiterated Bangladesh's zero tolerance policy against all kinds of terrorist acts and stressed on Bangladesh's commitment against terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP also signed the condolence book opened at the High Commission of Sri Lanka in Dhaka. He expressed deepest condolences at the loss of so many lives. The Foreign Minister also expressed the offer of the Government of Bangladesh to provide all out support and cooperation to the Sri Lankan Government during this critical and challenging time.



Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP signs the condolence book opened at the High Commission of Sri Lanka in Dhaka

Bangladesh keen to sign FTA with South American trade bloc MERCOSUR



Non-resident Argentine Ambassador Daniel Chuburu calls on State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md. Shahriar Alam, PM at his office

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md. Shahriar Alam, MP expressed keen interest to sign Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with South American trade bloc MERCOSUR at an early date to tap the under-exploited South American market. Bangladesh has already submitted "Letter of Intent" to that effect to secure greater access for Bangladeshi products to a huge market of 300 million consumers across Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay. State Minister conveyed this interest when new non-resident Argentine Ambassador Daniel Chuburu (based in New Delhi) called on him earlier on 11 April 2019. Argentine Ambassador, whose country is the current President of this trade bloc, promised full cooperation in this regard.

SEACO initiative of Bangladesh gets support from Malaysia

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md. Shahriar Alam, MP led a four-member delegation to Kuala Lumpur to garner Malaysian support in an initiative called South and South East Asian Cooperation (SEACO). It is a private sector and track-II level Forum of five OIC countries in the region- Bangladesh, Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia and Maldives with an objective of advancing regional economic integration. The Forum in the emergence is going to function in the model of World Islamic Economic Forum (WIEF) exclusively with the agenda of economic cooperation among the member countries and their neighborhoods. Bangladesh has taken the initiative and ready to host SEACO's launching conference in Dhaka towards the end of June 2019 with expected participation of the Foreign Ministers along with the public and private stakeholders.



State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md. Shahriar Alam, MP calls on Malaysian Foreign Minister Dato Saifuddin Abdullah in Kuala Lumpur



Heads of IOM, UNHCR and UN-OCHA meet the State Minister for Foreign Affairs

Filippo Grandi, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; Antonio Vitorino, Director General of International Organization for Migration (IOM) and Mark Lowcock, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) jointly called on the State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md. Shahriar Alam, MP on 24 April 2019. They are currently on a joint visit to Bangladesh on 24-28 April 2019. The delegation paid a visit to Cox's Bazar Rohingya camps on 25-26 April 2019.

State Minister for Foreign Affairs welcomed the delegation and thanked them for undertaking the visit. The delegation updated the State Minister about the recent

development of work of UN Agencies in the Northern Rakhine of Myanmar. The delegation opined, though the development is not significant, the situation is better than before.

The State Minister also reiterated the proposal of creating safe zone in Myanmar proposed by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh in the UN General Assembly and requested the visiting dignitaries to pursue Myanmar for creating the safe zone.

At the end of the meeting, the State Minister assured full support of Bangladesh to the humanitarian actors working for the Rohingyas and urged the UN Agencies to take effective steps to solve the Rohingya crisis.

Australian Ambassador for Women and Girls meets the State Minister

Australian Ambassador for Women and Girls Dr. Sharman Stone called on State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md. Shahriar Alam, MP in the Ministry on 30 April 2019. State Minister briefed the visiting Ambassador about Bangladesh's success in establishing gender equality and promoting women empowerment. Ambassador highly appreciated the leadership role of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, in advancing education for girls and financial and social inclusion of women in the society for which Prime

Minister achieved Global Women's Leadership Award in Australia in 2018.

Ambassador assured Australia's continued assistance for Bangladesh to address social issues causing gender based violence and to improve the ability of women to develop a more inclusive economy. State Minister also briefed the Ambassador about the measures taken by Bangladesh Government to mainstream women and girls in national plans.

3rd Bangladesh-UK Strategic Dialogue held in Dhaka

Bangladesh and the United Kingdom held their third Strategic Dialogue on 24 April 2019 at State Guest House Padma in Dhaka. The Strategic Dialogue was led by Bangladesh Foreign Secretary and British FCO Permanent Under-Secretary.

The Dialogue demonstrated the full depth of the Bangladesh-UK relationship and involved exchange of views on political relations, celebration of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations, trade and investment, education and skills, good governance and human rights, the future development partnership, migration and security and defence cooperation, and regional and global issues of mutual interest. The issue of finding a durable solution to the Rohingya crisis figured high in the discussions.

Bangladesh stressed the importance of an efficient decision making process for UK visa applications for its nationals, particularly for students and businesses. The UK restated its commitment to maintain a high quality service for Bangladeshi nationals at the visa application centres in Dhaka and Sylhet.

Both sides also discussed the issue of the proposed cross-border Higher Education Rules, which if implemented, will allow UK universities to operate in Bangladesh. Bangladesh proposed to open a dialogue in this regard. Both countries also agreed to consider further ways in which Bangladeshi students could be encouraged to study in the UK. Bangladesh reiterated its request for additional annual Commonwealth, Chevening and other scholarships for its students. The UK noted the increase in Chevening allocation and agreed to consider further requests.

Finally, both sides agreed to host events in Bangladesh and the UK in 2021 to mark the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the UK and Bangladesh.

This was the third Strategic Dialogue between the United Kingdom and Bangladesh. The first Strategic Dialogue was hosted by Bangladesh in March 2017. The second Strategic Dialogue took place at the UK's Foreign and Commonwealth Office, in March 2018.



Bangladesh's development and cultural heritage showcased in Abu Dhabi

With a view to portraying positive image of Bangladesh, the Mission organized a program at Hotel Intercontinental on 16 April 2019 under the public diplomacy endeavor of the Mission. The program was attended by members of diplomatic community, officials of the host government, personnel from the local media, members of think-tanks and civil society as well as business community.

The program included a power point presentation by the Ambassador highlighting the economic development, achievement in the socio-economic sector and investment potential of Bangladesh. The Ambassador explained to the

audience why Bangladesh is considered as an attractive destination for foreign investment. A video on the recent development achievements of Bangladesh was also screened and highly appreciated by the audience. Another video on Beautiful Bangladesh also show-cased the tourism potential of Bangladesh.

With a view to showcasing the rich cultural and culinary tradition of Bangladesh, the Mission, in collaboration with Ismaili Centre organized a cultural event followed by dinner at the Ismaili Centre, Dubai on 21 April 2019.

Bangladesh High Commission in Abuja receives "Best Foreign Participant Award"

Bangladesh High Commission in Abuja, Nigeria for the first time participated at the Kaduna International Trade Fair held on 29 March-07 April 2019 organized by Kaduna Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture. Dr. Okechukwu Enyinna Enelama, Minister for Industry, Trade and Investments of Nigeria inaugurated the Fair on 29 March 2019. Bangladesh High Commissioner to Nigeria was present along with diplomats from other countries, local dignitaries and business leaders at the inaugural ceremony which marked 40th yearly event.

Bangladesh Mission put up a large stall with its own collection of exportables. Bangladesh Stall received Best Foreign Participant Award and a crest was handed over ceremonially on the concluding day 7 April 2019.

Pharmaceuticals, ceramics, jute and leather products, RMG & knitwear, tea, jute leaf tea, electrical appliances, light engineering, plastic & melamine products, spice & curry powder, pickle, food items, snacks, pearl items, sari (maslin, silk), nakshikantha and handicrafts, among others, were on display which drew huge crowd each day. Deputy Governor of Kaduna along with Chamber President and other dignitaries visited the stall and admired the quality of Bangladeshi products. Publications on export and



Handicrafts displayed at Bangladesh Stall in Kaduna International Trade Fair 2019 in Kaduna, Nigeria

investment and tourism potentials, among others, were also on display. Roll-up-Banners containing pictorial description of the impressive achievements of Bangladesh at home and abroad were put around the pavilion. Documentaries on the development journey of Bangladesh were screened simultaneously which was an added attraction.

Seminar on 'Bangladesh-Turkey Trade and Investment and Future Prospects' held

The Embassy of Bangladesh in Ankara in association with HASIAD-one of the biggest organized industrial zones of Turkey jointly organized a Seminar titled 'Bangladesh-Turkey Trade and Investment and Future Prospects' in

Istanbul on 12 April 2019. The program was attended by the representatives of 50 companies. They are involved in the sectors such as energy, construction, ICT etc. to export import businesses.





Bangladesh Ambassador presents Credentials to the King of Cambodia

Bangladesh Ambassador to Thailand presented his Letter of Credence to the King of Cambodia at the Royal Palace, Phnom Penh on 25 April 2019. During the event, the Ambassador conveyed the warmest greetings and good wishes of President and Prime Minister of Bangladesh to the King, the Queen Mother and the people of Cambodia. He fondly recalled the meeting of Bangabandhu Sheikh

Mujibur Rahman, the Father of the Nation with Late-King Father Norodom Sihanouk in 1973 in Algiers during the NAM Summit. The King mentioned about his recent meeting with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in December 2017 at the Royal Palace and hoped that the close cooperation between the two countries will lead to greater progress and prosperity.

Bangladesh Ambassador presents credentials to the Uruguayan President

Bangladesh Ambassador to Brazil presented his credentials to the Uruguayan President as Bangladesh's concurrently accredited Ambassador to the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, at the Presidential Palace in Montevideo on 03 April 2019. The Ambassador discussed

about the proposed Free Trade Agreement between Bangladesh and Mercosur and sought active support of Uruguay in this regard, particularly for initiating negotiations on the FTA, to which the Uruguayan President promised his country's full support.

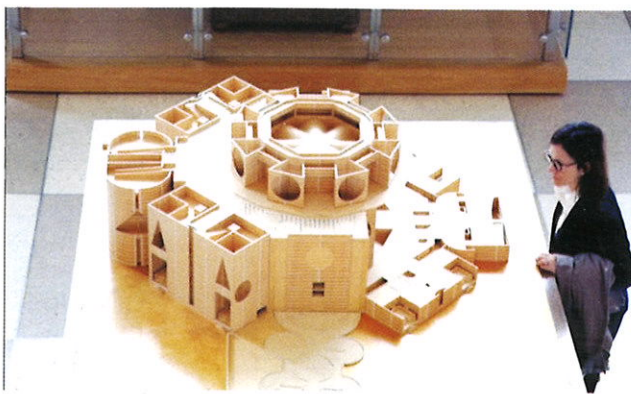
Seminar on 'Sending remittance by legal channels' held in Geneva

To sensitize expatriates and to increase remittance through legal channels, the Permanent Mission of Bangladesh organised a Seminar on 27 April 2019 in the Mission. Expatriates including those involved in remittance businesses, agents of the remittance houses, previously awarded CIP and victims of hundi, among others, attended the Seminar. The attendees engaged in deeper discussions and offered constructive suggestions.



Participants at a seminar on 'Sending remittance by legal channel' held in Geneva

Bangladesh Permanent Mission in New York organized Photo Exhibition at UN



A model of the National Parliament Building of Bangladesh was displayed at the centre of the hall of UN Headquarters in New York

The Permanent Mission of Bangladesh and the Permanent Mission of Estonia to the UN jointly organized a Photo Exhibition on 08 April 2019 at the UN Headquarters titled 'From Island to Island-The creative journey of Louis Kahn' where a model of the National Parliament Building of Bangladesh was displayed at the centre of the hall that attracted huge attention of the international community.

The exhibition, designed by Arne Maasik, an architect and photographer, showcased the great works of the Estonian-born American architect Louis Kahn. The event was graced by Ms Kersti Kaljulaid, President of Estonia; Mr Zahid Ahsan Russel MP, State Minister for Youth and Sports of Bangladesh; Ms Maria Fernanda Espinosa Garces, President of the General Assembly and Mr. Nathaniel Kahn, son of Louis Khan.



Jute products displayed at Art and Applied Arts Exhibition in Tashkent

Bangladesh Embassy in Tashkent actively participated in the Annual Art and Applied Arts Exhibition held in the Central Exhibition Hall of the Academy of Arts during 22-28 April 2019. The Academy of Arts and Ministry of Culture of Uzbekistan organized the event along with other embassies and local artists. Bangladesh Embassy at its designated corner demonstrated exhibition of jute products made in Bangladesh including different sari, jewelries, souvenirs and embroidery examples brought from Bangladesh.

Bangladesh corner at the Exhibition Hall was one of the most attended corners and lot of visitors, including foreign nationalities, artists and local art loving people. Representatives of the Embassy gave out information to visitors.



Bangladeshi jute products are displayed at Art and Applied Arts Exhibition in Tashkent

Bangladesh Embassy in Seoul arranged Bangladesh Business and Investment Seminar

Bangladesh Embassy in Seoul arranged a business and investment seminar titled "Development Journey of Bangladesh" in collaboration with the Gumi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Gumi CCI) in Gumi City on 25 April 2019.

Historic Mujibnagar Dibash observed in Bangladesh Missions abroad

Bangladesh Missions abroad observed the historic Mujibnagar Dibash on 17 April 2019 in a befitting manner to mark the anniversary of the oath-taking of the country's first government during the Liberation War in 1971. The day's programmes commenced with the hoisting of the national flag with the tune of the National Anthem. Verses from the Holy Books were recited. One minute silence was observed. Special prayer was offered for the eternal salvation of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh

Mujibur Rahman, all national leaders of the Mujibnagar Government, the martyrs of the War of Independence and for the continued peace and prosperity of the country. Messages from the President and the Prime Minister of Bangladesh were read out. Cultural programme, photo exhibition, screening of documentary and discussions were also organized highlighting the significance of the day, background and formation of the Mujibnagar Government, the life of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and independence struggle.

Bangladesh Missions celebrate Bengali New Year 1426

All Bangladesh Missions abroad celebrated the 'Bengali New Year 1426' in a festive and colourful manner. The programme of the day started in the morning with 'Mongal Shovajatra'. The events included 'Boishakhi Mela', cultural segment, discussion, screening of documentaries and serving traditional Bengali foods. A gallery of photographs of the event is as follows:





Bangladesh Embassy, Abu Dhabi



Bangladesh Embassy, Ankara



Bangladesh Embassy, Athens



Bangladesh Embassy, Bangkok



Bangladesh Embassy, Brasilia



Bangladesh High Commission, Canberra



Bangladesh High Commission, Islamabad



Bangladesh Consulate General, Istanbul



Bangladesh High Commission, Kuala Lumpur



Bangladesh Embassy, Male'



Bangladesh Consulate General, New York



Bangladesh Embassy, Paris



Bangladesh Embassy, Seoul



Bangladesh Embassy, The Hague

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