



Prime Minister visits China



Chinese President Xi Jinping welcomes Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at Diaoyutai State Guest House in Beijing

At the invitation of the Government of China, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina paid an official visit to China from 1-5 July 2019. They also invited her to attend the Annual Meeting of the New Champions 2019 (also known as Summer Davos 2019) which was held at Dalian in China from 1-3 July 2019. Founder and Executive Chairman of the World Economic Forum (WEF), Professor Klaus Schwab also invited her to attend the 13th WEF Meeting of the New Champions at Dalian.

On 02 July, Prime Minister attended the inaugural ceremony of the Annual Meeting of the New Champions 2019 and called on Professor Klaus Schwab. Professor informed her that WEF would hold special programs to mark the occasions of the 100th birth anniversary of the Father

of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in 2020 and the golden jubilee of the independence of Bangladesh in 2021. Besides, Bangladesh would be the main focus/theme of the 2021 Davos Forum. Prime Minister delivered her key note speech in a session of WEF titled 'Cooperation in the Pacific Rim'.

On 03 July, Prime Minister attended a reception program in Beijing organized by the expatriate Bangladeshi living in China. The next day, a smart contingent of China's People's Liberation Army gave a ceremonial Guard of Honour to her at the Great Hall. During the visit, 9 bilateral Agreements and MOUs were signed between the two countries which included expansion and strengthening of power system network, economic and technical cooperation, establishment of investment cooperation

working group, provision of hydrological information of the Yaluzangbu/Brahmaputra river in flood seasons, cultural and tourism exchange programme and letter of exchange on rice aid for the Rohingyas.

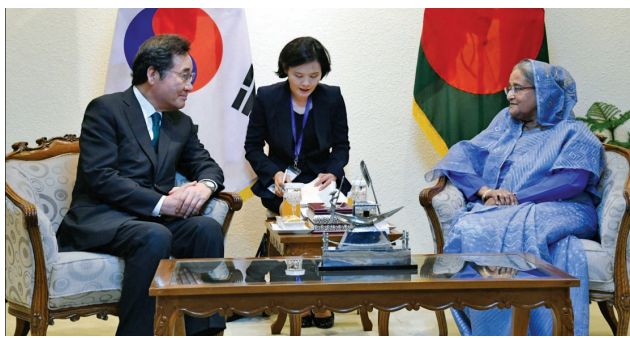
On 05 July, Prime Minister met Chinese President Xi Jinping at bilateral Summit. She congratulated him for the successful celebration of the 70th founding anniversary of the People's Republic of China. She also congratulated President Xi Jinping on the enshrinement of "Xi Jinping thought" in the constitution of Communist Party of China. She appreciated the brilliant articulation of the Chinese dream of national rejuvenation and two centenary goals to build a moderately prosperous society by 2021 and a great modern society by 2049.

Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea pays official visit to Bangladesh

Lee-Nak-yon, Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea paid an official visit to Bangladesh on 13-15 July 2019. This was the first visit by a Korean Prime Minister in 17 years. He was accompanied by a high-level delegation, including a business delegation. Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP received him at the VIP terminal after his arrival at Dhaka on 13 July 2019.

Prime Minister Lee-Nak-yon laid floral wreath at the National Martyr's Memorial in Savar. He also laid floral wreath at the portrait of Bangabandhu at the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Memorial Museum. He delivered a Key note speech in Korea Business Forum jointly organized by Federation of Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industries (FBCCI) and Korean International





Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea Lee-Nak-yon calls on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her office

Trade Association (KITA) at Hotel Intercontinental where he lauded the socio-economic progress of Bangladesh. He also pledged to extend Korean assistance in ICT, high tech and energy sectors of Bangladesh.

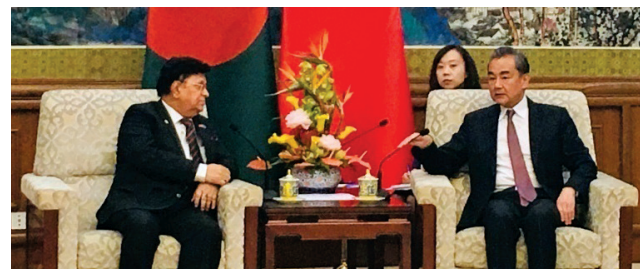
Prime Minister Lee-Nak-yon had tête-a-tête with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the Prime Minister's Office for half an hour followed by a bilateral meeting. After the meeting both the Prime Ministers witnessed signing of three MOUs - (i) Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation between the Korea National Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea and the Foreign Service Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bangladesh; (ii) Cultural Exchange Programme between the Government of the Republic of Korea and the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh for the Years 2019-2023; and (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Korea Trade Investment Promotion Agency of the Republic of Korea and the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority of the People's Republic of Bangladesh on Cooperation in the Field of Investment Promotion

After a three-day official visit to Bangladesh the Prime Minister of Korea left Dhaka on 15 July 2019.

China assures to encourage Myanmar to start the repatriation of the Rohingyas

State Councilor and Foreign Minister of China Wang Yi assured Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP that China would encourage Myanmar to start the repatriation of the displaced persons to the Rakhine State. He also said, China will continue to host trilateral meetings among China, Bangladesh and Myanmar to provide platform for dialogue to ensure the early return of the displaced people.

Chinese Foreign Minister made the remarks during a bilateral meeting with Dr. Momen in Beijing on 05 July 2019. The meeting took place on the sideline of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's ongoing visit to Beijing. Wang Yi said, "China will enhance and strengthen bilateral relations with Bangladesh to realize the objectives of Strategic Partnership of Cooperation as was decided at Bangladesh – China Leaders' Summit held in Dhaka in October 2016." He also said that the Summit talks reflected mutual trust and friendship currently existing between the two countries.



Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP calls on his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi in Beijing

Both Foreign Ministers agreed that solution to the Rohingya crisis would contribute to the peace and stability in the region. Dr. Momen asserted, Myanmar needs to create conducive conditions like assurances of safety and security for the displaced people to start return of the Rohingyas.

Bangladesh Foreign Minister meets with UN Secretary General and US lawmakers



Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP calls on UN Secretary General António Guterres in New York

Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP had a bilateral meeting with UN Secretary General António Guterres on 16 July 2019 in New York. The Rohingya issue got prominence during the discussion. Secretary General expressed concern over the current Rohingya crisis. In response to Foreign Minister's asking for strong cooperation from the United Nations and the International community to a sustainable solution to the Rohingya issue, the Secretary General assured him of his highest effort in this regard. Dr. Momen was visiting Washington, D.C. on an invitation from the US Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo, to participate in the Second





Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom held in the US Department of State from 16 to 18 July 2019.

Foreign Minister held meetings with a number of important and influential US lawmakers in Washington, D.C., including Senator James E. Risch (Republican - Idaho), Chairman, Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and Senator Bob Menendez (Democrat - New Jersey), Ranking Member of the same Committee. He also met with Congressman Eliot Engel (Democrat - New York), Chairman, House Foreign Affairs Committee, Congressman Brad Sherman (Democrat - California), Chairman, Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and Nonproliferation, of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, and Congresswoman Grace Meng (Democrat - New York).

In his meetings with the US lawmakers, Foreign Minister Dr. Momen briefed them on the impressive socio-economic development that has taken place in Bangladesh under the dynamic and visionary leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, which was appreciated by them. He thankfully acknowledged the strong US humanitarian and political support to Bangladesh in dealing with the Rohingya crisis created by Myanmar by forcibly displacing more than



Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP meets with US Lawmakers in Washington, D.C.

1.1 million Myanmar nationals from Rakhine State to Bangladesh. The US lawmakers commended Bangladesh's generosity in hosting this huge number of Rohingyas and said that they would continue their efforts in this regard.

In the evening, Dr. Momen attended a reception in the US Department of State hosted by Secretary Pompeo in honour of the participants of the Second Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom.

Representative of the IRRI presents credentials to Foreign Minister



IRRI Representative Dr. Humnath Bhandari calls on Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP at his office

Dr. Humnath Bhandari, Representative of the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in Bangladesh presented his credentials to Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP at his office on 28 July 2019. Foreign Minister welcomed him to Bangladesh, wished him success in discharging his responsibilities and assured him of the support of the government.

Foreign Minister briefed the IRRI representative about the actions taken by the government to ensure food security in Bangladesh and informed him that Bangladesh had become the 4th largest producer of rice in the world attaining food self-sufficiency.

Malta to explore new business opportunities in Bangladesh

Bangladesh and Malta agreed to begin 'new era of cooperation' to invigorate bilateral relations to achieve concrete benefits for the two peoples.

This was agreed between Bangladesh Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP and Maltese Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Promotion Carmelo Abela during the first ever official bilateral talks held in Maltese capital Valetta on 22 July 2019. The two Foreign Ministers exchanged views on all issues of mutual interests, with particular emphasis on enhanced economic cooperation by building partnerships in areas like maritime sector and Blue Economy. Both Foreign Ministers attended 'Bangladesh Malta Business Forum' hosted by the Malta Chamber of Commerce, Enterprise and Industry, in collaboration with Bangladesh Embassy in Greece, with concurrent accreditation to Malta. Foreign Minister Dr. Momen also met with the Speaker of the Maltese Parliament.



Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP meets his Maltese counterpart Carmelo Abela in Valetta, Malta





Chair of Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs visits UK

Chair of Bangladesh's Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Muhammad Faruk Khan, MP made a courtesy call on the Chair of UK Parliamentary Standing Committee on Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (FCO), Tom Tugendhat, MP at the Westminster in London on 23 July 2019. On the same day, he had another meeting with the Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Bangladesh of the British Parliament, Anne Main, MP. The issues of mutual interest and areas of cooperation between the two friendly countries were discussed during the meetings.

Proposal for hosting a Commonwealth B2B Connectivity Conference in Bangladesh



State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md. Shahriar Alam, MP addresses at the 18th Commonwealth Foreign Affairs Ministers Meeting in London

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md. Shahriar Alam, MP proposed to host a Commonwealth B2B connectivity conference with high-level participation in Dhaka in the first quarter of 2020 as the Lead country for facilitating B2B connectivity within the Commonwealth entrepreneurs and businesses. While addressing at the 18th Commonwealth Foreign Affairs Ministers Meeting (CFAMM) held in London on 10 July 2019, he put forward few more proposals including Bangladesh's plan to launch a virtual hub for connecting business, trade and policy making bodies for both documentation and showcasing business opportunities across the Commonwealth. He conveyed plans to make a special publication on the occasion of the said business conference. He also proposed to host an event under Commonwealth Blue Charter in Bangladesh in the year 2020 and to co-host a Commonwealth Women Empowerment Conference in Dhaka during Rwanda's Chairmanship to champion this issue.

State Minister meets OIC Secretary General in Jeddah

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md. Shahriar Alam, MP had a bilateral meeting with OIC Secretary General Dr. Yousef Bin Ahmad Al-Othaimeen in Jeddah on 17 July 2019. During the meeting Bangladesh State Minister asked for the cooperation of the OIC Secretary General to send back the forcibly displaced Rohingyas living in Bangladesh to Myanmar. Earlier the State Minister attended an emergency meeting of the OIC Executive Committee.



State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md. Shahriar Alam, MP had a bilateral meeting with OIC Secretary General Dr. Yousef Bin Ahmad Al-Othaimeen in Jeddah



Foreign Secretary Md. Shahidul Haque addresses at a Trade Seminar in Singapore

Trade seminar held in Singapore

Bangladesh High Commission in Singapore, Singapore Business Federation, Enterprise Singapore and the Institute of South Asian Studies under National University of Singapore jointly organized a daylong trade seminar in 'Singapore Business Federation Room' on 08 July 2019. Foreign Secretary Md. Shahidul Haque led the Bangladesh delegation in the seminar. He highlighted the vibrant and flourishing economy of Bangladesh with attracting investment opportunities. The event also focused on the ongoing development mega projects and achievements of the Government of Bangladesh.





Prospective business and investment roundtable discussion held in Istanbul

A roundtable discussion on 'Prospects of Business and Investment in Bangladesh' was organized by YAPDER-PERSIAD-PERPA Business Association in Istanbul on 11 July 2019. A wide range of issues including Bangladesh's economic growth, local market, exports and imports scenario, investment incentives and visa facilities were discussed at length. Consul General of Bangladesh in Istanbul delivered a speech in that discussion.

Event titled 'Showcase Bangladesh – Go Global' held in Kuala Lumpur

A day-long event titled 'Showcase Bangladesh- Go Global' was held at Hotel Royale Chulan, Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia on 11 July 2019. Under the supervision of Bangladesh High Commission in Kuala Lumpur, Bangladesh-Malaysia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BMCCI) organized the event with the support of Malaysia South-South Association (MASSA), Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE) and Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (BEZA). Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi, MP graced the occasion as Chief Guest, while Malaysian

Deputy Minister for the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) Dr. OngKian Ming was the Guest of Honour. Besides, Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister Imran Ahmad, MP was present at the event as Special Guest.

The event featured three business sessions on contemporary issues and exhibition of important Bangladeshi exportable items. A bilateral meeting took place between Bangladesh Commerce Minister and Malaysian Deputy Minister.

Delegation of State Trading Organization of Maldives visits Bangladesh

Focusing on the existing trade potentials between Bangladesh and Maldives, Bangladesh Embassy in Male' facilitated and coordinated the visit of a three member high level delegation of State Trading Organization (STO) of Maldives to the prominent pharmaceutical

companies in Bangladesh. The team visited Bangladesh Association of Pharmaceutical Industries (BAPI), SQUARE Pharmaceuticals Ltd., BEXIMCO Pharmaceuticals Ltd., INCEPTA Pharmaceuticals Ltd., RENATA Ltd. and VERITAS Pharmaceuticals Ltd. from 03-07 July 2019.

Public Diplomacy success in upholding Bangladesh image Photography exhibition in Seoul

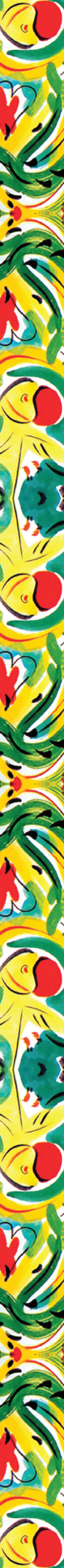
Bangladesh Embassy and the Korean Culture Association jointly organized a four-day photography exhibition titled 'Discover Bangladesh' in Seoul on 22-25 July 2019. 37 photographs on Bangladesh by Korean photographer Kim Sang Goo were displayed. The photographer visited Bangladesh in April this year under the Visit Bangladesh Programme organized by the External Publicity Wing, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dhaka. The inauguration ceremony was attended by 50 guests including Ambassadors, Diplomats and Korean guests. The exhibition was open for all.



Visitors at a photography exhibition titled 'Discover Bangladesh' in Seoul

Scholarship opportunities proposed for qualified youths

Bangladesh proposed for setting up a Trust Fund for interns from developing world in the Organization for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons - OPCW. This proposal was tabled by Bangladesh Embassy in the Hague at the 91st Executive Council of the 193-member OPCW on 9 July 2019. It was proposed that scholarships could be awarded to the qualified young graduates from developing world.





Bangladesh, Bhutan and India collaborate to promote trade using inland waterways



Ribbon cutting ceremony at Meghnaghat, Dhaka for the maiden consignment received from Bhutan through river Brahmaputra

A maiden consignment of 1000 metric ton stone aggregates originating from Bhutan left Dhubri, Assam on 11th July 2019 and reached Narayanganj port, Dhaka on 16th July 2019 after traversing through Brahmaputra covering a distance of 615 KM. To commemorate this historic event, a Ribbon Cutting ceremony was held on 18th July 2019 at Meghnaghat, Dhaka. This mode of transportation will not only reduce costs by a huge margin, but will also serve as an excellent example of economic cooperation and sub-regional cross-border trade involving three friendly contiguous neighboring countries – Bangladesh, Bhutan and India. Due to a number of initiatives and cooperation between Bangladesh and Bhutan, the last couple of years have witnessed an exponential growth in trade. As per Bhutanese statistics, in 2018 the total trade value was recorded at USD 94.15 million, an increase of 67.8% compared to the previous year.

Docu-Fiction film “Jonmobhumi” on the Rohingya issue screened at UNHQs.

In commemoration of World Refugee Day on 8 July 2019, Permanent Mission of Bangladesh to the UN hosted the screening of a docu-fiction film titled “JonmoBhumi” or “The Birthland” on the forcibly displaced Rohingyas residing in the camps in Cox’s Bazar. This event, held at the United Nations headquarters, was co-sponsored by the Permanent Mission of Kenya to the UN and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. The persecution Rohingyas faced in Rakhine State, their conditions in the camps and their determination and resilience are some of the film’s main take aways.

A brief discussion on the forcibly displaced people in the world in general and Rohingyas in particular was held before the screening where the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the UN, made opening remarks. Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Switzerland, Deputy Permanent Representative of Kenya and Senior Policy Advisor of UNHCR also took part in the discussion. Also in attendance were the Permanent Representatives



Docu-Fiction film “Jonmobhumi” on the Rohingya issue screened at UNHQs in New York

and Diplomats of many of the UN member states, New York-based Consuls General of several countries, United Nations staff, New York-based humanitarian and social workers, writers, film makers, television personalities, actors, models and musicians.

Chief Patron : Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen, MP, Foreign Minister
Patron : Md. Shahriar Alam, MP, State Minister for Foreign Affairs
Editorial Adviser : Md. Shahidul Haque, Foreign Secretary (Senior Secretary)
Editor : Masudur Rahman, Director General, External Publicity Wing
Published by : External Publicity Wing, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dhaka, Bangladesh
Contact : Phone:+880-2-9562952, Fax: +880-2-9562163; E-mail: dgep@mofa.gov.bd

