

FOREIGN OFFICE

BRIEFING NOTES

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

June 2021

Hon'ble President called for collaboration for Research and Development among OIC Member States at the 2nd OIC Summit on Science and Technology

Hon'ble President Md. Abdul Hamid participated in the 2nd OIC Summit on Science and Technology held virtually on 16 June 2021. The United Arab Emirates hosted the virtual Summit under the theme, "*Science, Technology and Innovation: Opening New Horizons*".

During his speech, the Hon'ble President highlighted the areas in which Bangladesh made remarkable technological advancements, for example launching of Bangabandhu Satellite, advancements in life sciences etc. 'Bangladesh is promoting nuclear medicine, nanotechnology, food processing and preservation, modern biotechnology, gene banking and blue economy resources', he further added.

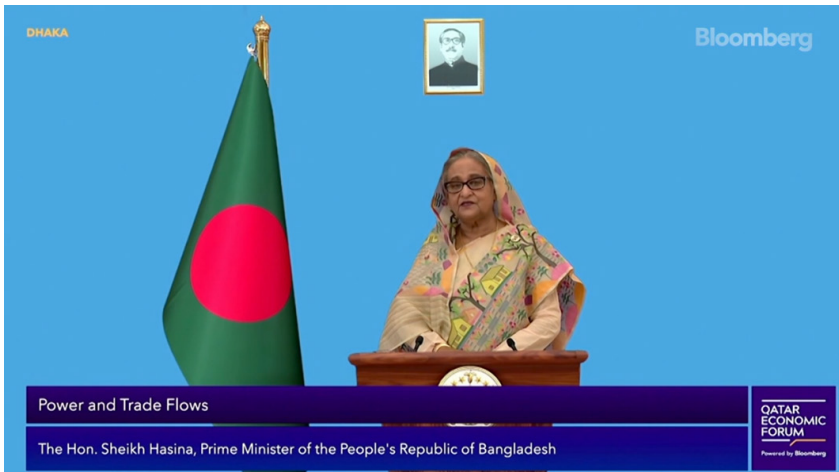
At the Summit, H.E. Md. Abdul Hamid called for collaboration for Research and Development among OIC Member States with OIC institutional support and technology transfer among member countries. He also called for incubation



support for OIC-wide commercial application of innovations and job creation in Member States and development of mechanisms, networks and associations of scientists and entrepreneurs among the Member States. Hon'ble President urged the OIC Member States for establishing high-tech industry and implementation of

gradual clustering projects under IDB co-financing arrangement. He proposed that Bangladesh may offer R&D and industrial initiatives in its lead areas. He also urged Member States to use Science and Technology as a game changer in poverty alleviation and sustainable development.

Hon'ble Prime Minister Participated in the Qatar Economic Forum



Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina virtually participated in the Qatar Economic Forum under the theme 'Reimagining the world' on 23 June 2021 following invitation from His Highness the Amir of Qatar.

In her speech, Hon'ble Prime Minister highlighted the need for immediate collective and concerted actions to help

mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic through expansion of trade, business and investment for common prosperity. She also mentioned that the developing countries and LDCs should be given the necessary support to produce the vaccine, declaring it as global public good. She further highlighted the stimulus package of the government, amounting 15.1 billion US dollar to balance between

lives and livelihood during this pandemic. Mentioning COVID-19 as the litmus test for global solidarity, Hon'ble Prime Minister said that the 2030 Agenda of Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda can act as the blueprint to overcome this crisis. She placed six suggestions in her speech including a. taking ambitious climate action to meet the goal of Paris Agreement; b. leveraging science, technology, and innovation for closing the digital divide; c. having targeted international support to revitalize global trade and export, d. contributing to the reintegration plan of migrant workers through involvement of host countries, business leaders and investors; e. ensuring new international support for the graduating LDCs to tackle any challenges due to the pandemic, and f. having an inclusive, sustainable and holistic recovery plan for shared prosperity.

Hon'ble Prime Minister participated in the Fifth UN Special Thematic Session on Water and Disasters

Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina participated through a pre-recorded video message in the Fifth UN Special Thematic Session on Water and Disasters under the theme "Building Back Better towards More Resilient and Sustainable Post-COVID-19 World" held on 25 June 2021 which was convened by the Chair of the High-level Experts and Leaders Panel on Water and Disasters.

In her statement, Hon'ble Prime Minister put utmost importance on creation of stronger and inclusive international cooperation to mitigate the water-related disasters. She also highlighted the impacts of climate change in Bangladesh especially mentioning the devastation



caused by the super cyclone "Amphan", monsoon flood and cyclone "Yaas" during COVID-19 pandemic. Hon'ble Prime

Minister also mentioned the initiatives of her government for revision of National Plan for Disaster Management for the

period of 2021 to 2025, development of Community Based Disaster Preparedness Model, formulation of Bangladesh Delta Plan-2100 and preparation of “Mujib Climate Prosperity Plan” with a vision to achieving safe, climate resilient and prosperous Bangladesh.

She suggested some collective measures including taking comprehensive, result oriented, focused and adaptive global approach for water security; raising political awareness, and sharing good practices, knowledge, and experiences; ensuring synergies on water management,

and water policies; focusing on implementation of the Sendai Framework, the SDGs, and the Paris Agreement; and mobilising financial resources for the vulnerable countries to ensure their adequate access to water.

Hon’ble Foreign Minister held a telephone meeting with the Foreign Minister of Japan



Hon’ble Foreign Minister Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen, MP held a telephone meeting with Hon’ble Foreign Minister of Japan Mr. MOTEGI Toshimitsu on June 22, 2021.



Hon’ble Foreign Minister of Bangladesh expressed his appreciation for Japan’s long-standing support including the assistance related to COVID-19 and

requested to provide vaccines. The two Ministers agreed to continue their cooperation toward containing the spread of COVID-19. The Foreign Minister of Japan appreciated Bangladesh for hosting the displaced Rohingyas from Rakhine State, Myanmar for a prolonged period, and stated that Japan would continue its support in this regard. In response, Bangladesh Foreign Minister emphasized the importance of repatriation of those displaced Rohingyas. The two Ministers agreed to further promote their excellent level of cooperation looking forward to the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Bangladesh and Japan to be observed in 2022.

Hon’ble Foreign Minister visited the Consulate General of Bangladesh in New York

Hon’ble Foreign Minister Dr. A.K. Abdul Momen, MP visited the Consulate General of Bangladesh in New York on 17 June 2021. During the visit, Bangladesh Community in New York and neighboring States handed over six resolutions/instruments adopted by Georgia Senate, Governor of the State of

New Hampshire, Governor of the State of Louisiana, House of Representatives, State of New York, and the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of the Independence of Bangladesh and the Birth Centenary of the Father of the Nation

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The resolutions/instruments were adopted expressing deep respect to the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and praising the Hon’ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for her visionary and dynamic leadership.



► Hon’ble Foreign Minister is interacting with the consular service seekers



► Hon’ble Foreign Minister is visiting Mujib Gallery at the Consulate

The Hon'ble Foreign Minister also inspected the activities of the Consulate General, visited Mujib Gallery and interacted with the consular service seekers. He expressed satisfaction on

the systems installed at the Consulate to provide digital consular services and instructed the officials of the Consulate to uphold the quality of the people-friendly consular and welfare services.

Mr. Shamim Osman, Hon'ble Member of Parliament from Narayanganj-4 was also present during the visit by the Hon'ble Foreign Minister.

An exchange of views by the Foreign Secretary (Senior Secretary) on contemporary issues with Bangladesh Ambassadors and High Commissioners to ASEAN countries through “Baithak”

An exchange of views on contemporary issues with Bangladesh's Ambassadors and High Commissioners to ASEAN countries through a virtual video conferencing platform “Baithak” was held on 08 June 2021. Foreign Secretary (Senior Secretary) Masud Bin Momen called for innovative efforts to sustain Bangladeshi's economic growth in the face of the ongoing global epidemic and other regional and global challenges. He also called to take initiative to strengthen Trade and economic ties. The virtual meeting was attended by the Ambassadors and High Commissioners of Bangladesh in eight ASEAN countries and senior officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



► Video Conference through “Baithak”

Screening of the Film ‘The Salt in our Waters’ by the Bangladesh Embassy in Seoul



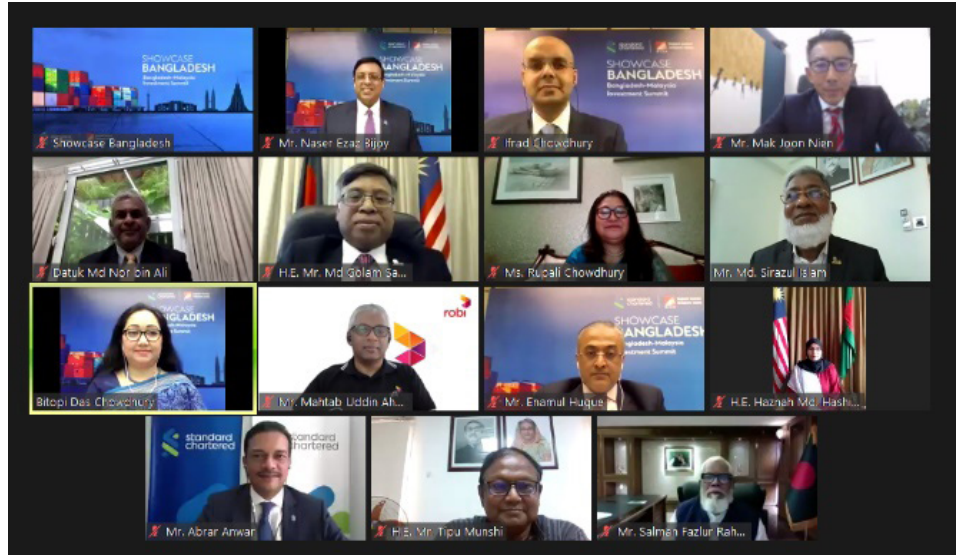
To raise awareness about the direct and indirect impacts of climate change on Bangladesh especially on its people of coastal areas, the Embassy of Bangladesh in Seoul, in partnership with UNDP Seoul Policy Centre and Korea University, screened a film at

the International Studies Hall of Korea University, titled ‘The Salt in our Waters’ on 01 June 2021 to mark the 2021 World Environment Day.

Diplomats, representatives from the UNDP Policy Centre and World Bank, young climate activists including

students were present at the event. The audience highly admired the film Directed and Produced by Rezwan Shahriar Sumit and Co-Produced by Ilann Girard who were virtually connected after the screening to responded to the queries of the participants.

Showcase Bangladesh: Bangladesh -Malaysia Investment Summit 2021



With the cooperation of Bangladesh High Commission in Kuala Lumpur, Showcase Bangladesh: Bangladesh -Malaysia Investment Summit 2021 was successfully organized jointly by Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) and Standard Chartered Bank on 2nd June 2021 virtually. H.E. Tipu Munshi, MP, Hon’ble Commerce Minister has graced the occasion as Chief Guest and Hon’ble

Private Sector and Investment Adviser to Hon’ble Prime Minister Mr. Salman Fazlur Rahman, MP graced the virtual event as a special guest. A keynote paper was presented by Mr. Md. Sirazul Islam, Executive Chairman of BIDA. High Commissioner of Malaysia to Bangladesh H.E. Md. Golam Sarwar and Malaysian High Commissioner to Bangladesh H.E. Haznah Md Hashim participated in the event as speakers of

the panel discussion. During the Summit, the speakers opined that Bangladesh has taken significant strides towards enhancing business climate despite the challenges of Covid-19 and has emerged as the safest and most profitable gateway to South Asia. Bangladesh also looks forward to supporting the diversification of Malaysian investments into sectors such as agribusiness, halal food, RMG, IT, healthcare and more.

Bangladesh High Commission, London in collaboration with ICT division organized a high-profile B2B event titled, “Bangladesh-UK@ 50: Forging a Digital Economy Partnership”

Bangladesh High Commission, London in collaboration with ICT division organized a high-profile B2B event titled, “Bangladesh-UK@50 : Forging a Digital Economy Partnership” , on 03 June 2021. During the event, Bangladesh State Minister for ICT Mr. Zunaid Ahmed Palak with British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office Minister Lord Tariq Ahmad jointly inaugurated first ever Virtual IT Desk and B2B Connectivity Portal, the ‘Bangladesh IT Connect-UK’, at the Bangladesh High Commission in London to attract

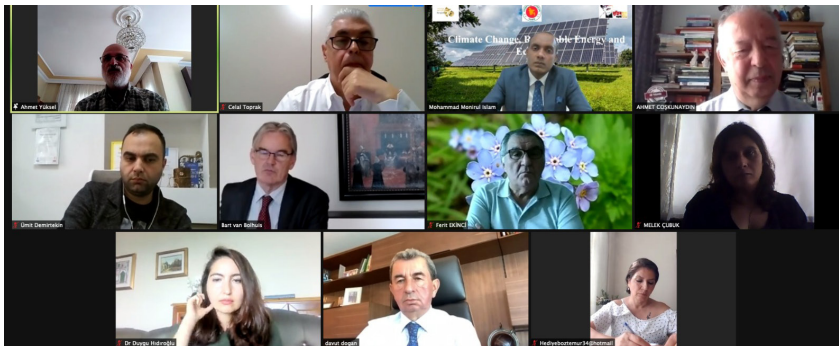


more FDI and create greater business connectivity between entrepreneurs and vendors from IT Industry in Bangladesh and the UK. High Commissioner Saida Muna Tasneem chaired the event. President of Confederation of British Industry Lord Bilimoria, International

Director of British Computer Society Mr. Stephen Tweed and President of BASIS Syed Almas Kabir also spoke at the opening session. Representatives from British companies who are investing in Bangladesh such as VEON Global Digital Financial Services,

Kingsway Capital along with successful Bangladeshi BPO providers and startups including Auleek, CutOutWiz, Pathao and SBK Tech Ventures, more than 320 IT experts, business association leaders and IT entrepreneurs from Bangladesh, UK and India joined the event.

Bangladesh Consulate General in Istanbul organized webinar titled- 'Climate Change, Renewable Energy and Economy'



In its continued efforts to raise the profile of Bangladesh in Turkey, the Mission, in partnership with the New Searches Initiative Platform Association, organized a webinar titled Climate Change, Renewable Energy and Economy on 04 June 2021. The webinar was spoken by Mr. Mohammad Monirul Islam, Consul General of Bangladesh, Mr.

Bart van Bolhuis, Consul General of the Netherlands, Mr. Jalal Toprak, President of the Initiative Platform Association, Mr. Davut Dogan, Chairman of Doganlar Holding, and Mr. Ahmet Choskunaydin, noted Journalist.

Consul General Mr. Islam highlighted various steps and programmes of Bangladesh in tackling the adverse

impacts of climate change. Explaining the context and contents of 'Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100, Mr. Islam articulated that Bangladesh has been implementing 100-year long plan to reduce vulnerabilities of and build resilience to climate change.

As the Chair of the Climate Vulnerable Forum and V-20, Bangladesh has been working closely with other stake-holders in advancing the interests of climate vulnerable countries in the global platforms, Consul General added. Mr. Islam called upon Turkish investors to explore the possibilities of investments in renewable energy, recycling industries and waste management in Bangladesh. The attending panelists profusely appreciated the actions of Bangladesh in combating climate change and global warming induced adversities.

Visit of Chief of Army Staff, Bangladesh to Maldives

The Chief of Army Staff, General Aziz Ahmed and his delegation paid an official visit to Maldives from 2 to 6 June 2021. General Aziz was invited to visit Maldives by the Chief of Defence Force, Republic of Maldives, Major General Abdulla Shamaal.

The Chief of Army Staff called on Minister of Defence of Maldives H.E. Mariya Didi on 03rd June 2021. The High Commissioner was also present during the call on. Thereafter, the Chief of Army Staff called on General Shamaal. During both the calls on, some common



► The Chief of Army Staff called on the Defence Minister of Maldives

issues of interest were discussed in a very congenial environment. After the call on, a presentation on Maldives National Defence Force (MNDF) was arranged for the visiting delegation.

Later in the day, the Chief of Army Staff and his delegation visited the High Commission, called on the High Commissioner at his office. Thereafter, a briefing on the important activities of

the Mission and recent development in the bilateral relationship between Bangladesh and Maldives were presented

to the Delegation. The Delegation also visited the 'Bangabandhu Corner' at the Mission premises which was prepared

last year in honour of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

The Bangladesh Embassy, Abu Dhabi organized a seminar on 'National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam in Bangabandhu's Dream of Non-Communal and Non-Discriminatory Bangladesh

The Bangladesh Embassy, Abu Dhabi organized a seminar on 'National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam in Bangabandhu's Dream of Non-Communal and Non-Discriminatory Bangladesh' on the occasion of the Birth Centenary Celebration of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman On 10 June 2021.

The event was chaired by Ambassador Mr. Abu Zafar and was attended by all embassy officials, Bangladeshi professors working in local universities, principal of Bangladesh School, representative of Janata Bank, Bangabandhu Parishad and Bangladesh Samiti leaders, media representatives and local expatriate leaders.

In his speech, the Ambassador said that our national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam has sung the glory of equality, harmony, equal rights of women, human rights, humanism and Bengali nationalism in his literature and work. He raised his voice



against political and social injustices. The Father of the Nation was inspired by many elements of the poet's biography, philosophy and work which are also reflected in his political philosophy. Since he was inspired by the spirit of poet Nazrul, he brought the poet from Calcutta to Dhaka after independence and arranged for best treatment under the government management. Kazi Nazrul was later conferred the rank of national poet.

The Ambassador added, the Father of the Nation has fulfilled his duties. Poet

Nazrul's philosophy of communism and non-communalism is reflected in the Constitution of Bangladesh, by including the principles of secularism and socialism of its own kind in the constitution. He also called upon Bangladesh to be a non-sectarian nation and a humanitarian state on the side of the oppressed people of the world through the practices of this ideal among the diaspora. He said that we must always be vocal against all kinds of injustice, inequality, exploitation, communalism and fanaticism and practice tolerance.

Reading Session: The Graphic Novel Mujib, organized by the Bangladesh High Commission in Bandar Seri Begawan

In commemoration of the 48th anniversary of receiving the Julio-Curie award by Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the Bangladesh High Commission in Bandar Seri Begawan organized a program with the children of Reading and Literary Association (RELA) of Brunei Darussalam, the children of Bangladeshi community and the members of Brunei Youth Council on 11 June 2021 at the Bangladesh High Commission in Brunei Darussalam.



► Reading Session: The Graphic Novel Mujib

The Bangladesh High Commissioner, Mrs Nahida Rahman Shumona read out both in Bangla and English the ‘Graphic Novel Mujib’ published by CRI (Centre for Research and Information). As RELA

has a reputation for working on the area of increasing avidness towards reading book among children, more reading sessions with focus on Graphic Novel Mujib will be organized in cooperation

with the RELA. The renowned artist of Brunei PG Wahab Hassan inspired the children to draw picture themed on peace. He also taught them different techniques of drawing pictures.

Bangladesh High Commission in Islamabad organized “Bangladesh Festival”

As part of the celebrations of the Birth Centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the Golden Jubilee of our Independence, the Bangladesh High Commission in Islamabad organized an elaborate programme titled “Bangladesh Festival” on 12 June 2021.



The programme started with ceremonial inauguration of the exhibition of portraits, photos, books and posters on the Father of the Nation, and the development of Bangladesh by High Commissioner Mr. Md. Ruhul Alam Siddique. He informed the guests about the life of Bangabandhu, his works and philosophy, involvement and activities for world peace; and the ‘World Peace Conference’ to be held in Dhaka at the end of this year. A cultural

programme- a composition to depict Bangladeshi festivals through rally, dance, music and chorus song then took place. A flute maestro and a team of dhol (drum) players enthralled the guests with their rendition throughout the event.

The Chancery was decorated with banners, festoons, flowers, artworks, colorful

lightings in a traditional Bangladeshi way. Over two hundred guests including senior government officials, musicians, painters, civil society members, former diplomats, media personnel, physicians, members of Bangladesh community and mission officials along with their family members attended the festival.



Bangladesh Embassy, Madrid participated in the 5-day long international trade event IMEX-Madrid 2021

Bangladesh Embassy, Madrid participated in the 19th edition of IMEX-Madrid 2021. The Spanish international trade magazine Moneda Única hosted

this 5-day long international trade event from 12 to 16 June 2021, where more than 50 countries participated. On 16 June 2021, the Embassy held a live

event at the Bangladesh Stall to meet and provide information to interested businessmen and investors based in Spain. A seminar on Business and



Investment Opportunities in Bangladesh was held on the same day, which was also broadcast live on YouTube and social media, with many participants from Spain and Bangladesh.

The keynote address was delivered by the Commercial Counsellor of the Embassy. Before presenting the main article, Ambassador Mr. Mohammad Sarwar Mahmud addressed the seminar. He

stressed upon the opportunity for investing in Bangladesh and mentioned about the IMF and World Bank's assessment of Bangladesh as the Emerging Tiger of South Asia.

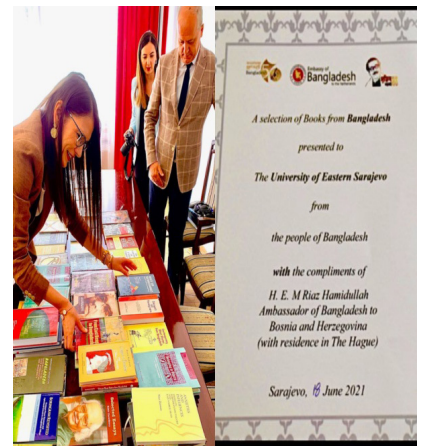
Bangladesh in Bosnia, to mark Mujib Year



► Ambassador Hamidullah with the Mayor of Bihac, Mr. Suhret Fazlic



► Ambassador Hamidullah with the Rector of the University of Sarajevo, Prof Milan Kulić



► Presenting 101 books on Bangabandhu and Bangladesh to the University of Eastern Sarajevo.

Ambassador (concurrently accredited to Bosnia & Herzegovina), M. Riaz Hamidullah, during a visit to Sarajevo (14-18 June 2021), conveyed a message from the Hon'ble Foreign Minister of Bangladesh to the Bosnian leadership. He also visited the University of Eastern Sarajevo; and discussed potential collaboration with the Rector, Prof Milan Kulić. As a mark goodwill, he presented a selection of 101 books on contemporary Bangladesh (history-politics-economy-society) as also Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Bangladesh Liberation

War etc. to the University Library, in commemoration of *Mujib Year*. Ambassador Hamidullah also visited the Faculty of Medicine of the University in Foca where the Dean of the faculty and the Ambassador finalised arrangements to welcome Bangladesh students in medicine (graduate) courses, in English language. This should eventually afford Bangladeshi students Europe-wide access as medical practitioner, upon completion of studies.

Ambassador Hamidullah also met Mayor of the City of Bihac, Mr. Suhret Fazlic

(17 June). The Mayor deeply recalled the role played by the Bangladeshi peacekeepers under UNPROFOR during 1992-95 Bosnian War, especially the supreme sacrifice made by the Bangladeshi peacekeepers in protecting the civilians in Bihac. The Mayor also welcomed the Ambassador's idea of establishing institutional relationship between Bangladesh Army and the City of Bihac, particularly in erecting a memorial in Bihac city in remembrance of the Bangladeshi peacekeepers. The Mayor assured of his support.

Meeting with the Secretary General of Colombo Plan, and the Chairperson of the Sri Lanka Foundation

Bangladesh High Commissioner to Sri Lanka, Mr. Tareq Md Ariful Islam held a meeting with the Secretary General of Colombo Plan, Amb. Dr. Phan Kieu Thu at the Chancery on 14 June 2021. During the meeting, they exchanged views on various issues relating to the ongoing activities of the Colombo Plan including the vacancy announcement for the position of Secretary-General of the Colombo Plan for the period of 2022 – 26.

High Commissioner Tareq Islam assured Amb. Kieu of extending all necessary cooperation to the work of the Colombo Plan.

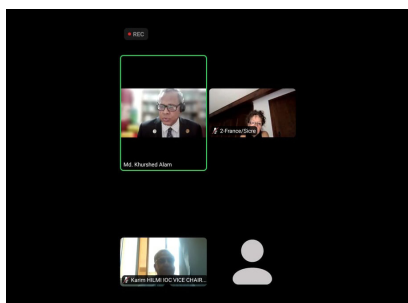


► High Commissioner Tareq Md Ariful Islam and Chairperson of Sri Lanka Foundation Institute Ms. Champika Amarasekera discussing ways of enhancing cooperation.

Bangladesh High Commissioner to Sri Lanka, Mr. Tareq Md Ariful Islam visited the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute, Sri Lanka’s foremost and pioneering state-owned adult education and training centre and also paid a courtesy call on its Chairperson, Ms. Champika Amarasekera

on 29 June 2021. They discussed the scope of enhancing collaboration in the areas of higher education and training and agreed to explore new areas of cooperation within the mandates of the High Commission and the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute.

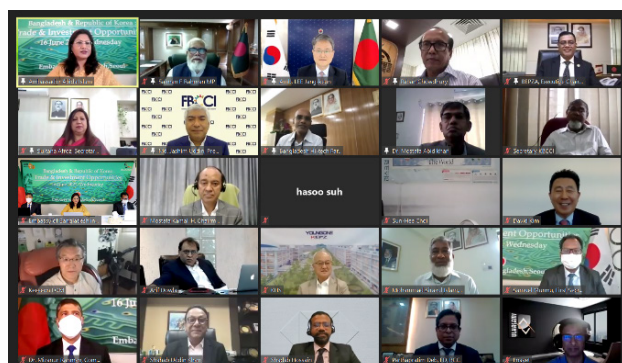
Bangladesh participated in the 31st session of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) Assembly:



The 31st session of the IOC Assembly was held virtually on 14-25 June 2021. Bangladesh, the current Chair of the IOC Regional Committee for the Central Indian Ocean (IOCINDIO), participated in the Assembly with a delegation led by Rear Admiral (Retd.) Md. Khurshed Alam, Secretary (Maritime Affairs), Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In the IOC

Assembly, Bangladesh took up the issue of elevation of status of the IOCINDIO into an IOC Sub-Commission like IOCAFRICA, IOCARIBE, and WESTPAC. A 25-member National Decade Committee of Bangladesh has been formed to duly observe “United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030)”.

Webinar on ‘Bangladesh and ROK: Trade and Investment Opportunities’ held on 16 June 2021



A webinar titled ‘Bangladesh and ROK: Trade and Investment Opportunities’, organized by the Embassy of Bangladesh in Seoul was held on 16th June 2021. It discussed and exchanged views on the existing trend of bilateral cooperation

especially in Pharmaceutical and Bio-Industry including the ICT sector as well as charting the future course of action in expanding cooperation in these thriving sectors. H.E. Mr. Salman Fazlur Rahman, MP, Hon’ble Adviser to the Hon’ble

Prime Minister on Private Investment and Industry graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The virtual meeting was participated by the dignitaries and representatives of the government and other trade bodies of both Bangladesh & the Republic of Korea.

Bangladesh Ambassador to the Russian Federation H.E. Kamrul Ahsan had a meeting with the Director of the Russian Institute for Strategic Studies (RISS)

Bangladesh Ambassador to the Russian Federation H.E. Kamrul Ahsan had a meeting with the Director of the Russian Institute for Strategic Studies (RISS) H.E. Mikhail Yefimovich Fradkov on 16 June 2021. During the meeting, regional and international issues of mutual interest were discussed. Mikhail Fradkov earlier held the posts of Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade and Minister of Trade of the Russian Federation. He was also the former Director of the Foreign Intelligence Service of the Russian Federation.



► H.E. Kamrul Ahsan met H.E. Mikhail Fradkov, Director of RISS on 16 June 2021

Launching Ceremony of the French Version of the book ‘Prison Diaries’ (Journal de Prison)

On the occasion of the Centenary of Birth of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the Golden Jubilee of Independence of Bangladesh, Embassy of Bangladesh, Paris, organized a launching ceremony of the French version of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman’s ‘Prison Diaries’ (Journal de Prison) on 17 June 2021. Hon’ble Foreign Minister Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen, MP attended the event as Chief Guest, connected live from New York. The Guest of Honour of the event was Mr. Bernard-Henri Lévy prominent French writer, philosopher and filmmaker.

Other distinguish guests at the launching ceremony were Mr. Kamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury, Chief Coordinator, National Implementation Committee for the Celebration of the Birth Centenary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh



► Book Launching of the French version of Karagarer Rojnamcha (Journal de Prison)



► Hon’ble Foreign Minister Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen, MP and Mr. Bernard-Henri Lévy in person, are jointly unveiling the book Karagarer Rojnamcha (Journal de Prison)

Mujibur Rahman, Mr. Mofidul Haque, Trustee, Liberation War Museum, Dhaka, and Professor Phillipe Benoit. Head of Bangla, Institut national des langues et civilisations orientales (INALCO). French dignitaries, Ambassadors and Permanent Delegates to UNESCO, Officials from the French Foreign Ministry were also connected at the ceremony virtually.

Foreign Minister Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen, MP on Virtual Platform and Mr. Bernard-Henri Lévy in person, jointly unveiled the book held at the “Bangabandhu Lounge” of the Embassy.



► Mr. Bernard-Henri Lévy making his remarks at the Unveiling Ceremony the book *Karagarer Rojnamcha (Journal de Prison)*

The Lumut Lunting Poetry Drama: A Legendary Cultural Folktale of Brunei Darussalam

On the auspicious occasion of the Golden Jubilee of the Independence of Bangladesh and the 37th Independence Day of Brunei Darussalam, ‘The Lumut Lunting Poetry Drama: A Legendary Cultural Folktale of Brunei Darussalam’ was staged at the auditorium of the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports (MCYS), Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam on 20 June 2021.

The poetry drama was jointly organized by the High Commission of Bangladesh in Brunei Darussalam and the Brunei Reading and Literary Association (ReLA) in collaboration with MCYS. Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports of Brunei Darussalam, Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Aminuddin Ihsan bin Pehin Orang Kaya Saiful Mulok Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin was the guest of honour. All officers and staff of Bangladesh High Commission, Brunei’s Legislative Council (LegCo) members, all officials of the MCYS, and representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brunei Darussalam were present during the staging of the drama.



The Bangladesh High Commissioner highly praised the talented youth of Brunei Darussalam for so successfully staging the drama that is based on Bruneian folklore documented in *Syair Awang Semaun* revolving around the early days of the first Sultan of Brunei Awang Alak Betatar around the 14th Century when Brunei was a vassal state of the Majapahit Empire. She also added that the legend is an epic tale of Bruneians freeing themselves from the clutches of the Majapahit Empire. It showcased the strength and agility of the Bruneians.

The Lumut Lunting Poetry Drama



► A boat made by Mr. Abdus Sattar, an expatriate Bangladeshi in Brunei Darussalam was used in the drama. The Bangladesh High Commissioner acquainted him with the audience who all put their hands together for his skillfulness.

Participation of Bangladesh delegation to Antalya Diplomacy Forum



Mr. Shabbir Ahmad Chowdhury, Secretary (West), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dhaka, led Bangladesh delegation to the Antalya Diplomacy Forum hosted under the auspicious of the President of Turkey by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey on 18-20 June 2021. The Forum was inaugurated by H.E. Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, Hon'ble President of Turkey on 18th June. Members of Bangladesh delegation were-H.E. Mosud Mannan ndc, Ambassador, Mr. Sikder Bodiruzzaman, Director General (EE&CIS) and Dr. Mohammad Monirul Islam, Consul

General of Bangladesh in Istanbul. The ADF was held at the NEST Congress and Exhibition Center in the southern Antalya province under the theme '*Innovative Diplomacy: New Era, New Approaches*'. The forum, which was slated to be held face-to-face in Antalya last year, was postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Apart from participating in a panel discussion titled "Humanitarian Approach Towards Refugees and Migrants" on 19 June 2021, the Head of Bangladesh

delegation Mr. Chowdhury also held fruitful sidelines meetings with Mr. Sedat Onal, 1st Deputy Foreign Minister of Turkey, Mr. Joshua Popho Setipa, Managing Director, United Nations Technology Bank and Mr. Karat Sarybay, Executive Director, CICA where various important issues concerning Bangladesh and her interest were discussed including holding of next sessions of JEC (Joint Economic Commission) and FOC (Foreign Office Consultation) in Dhaka at the earliest.

Embassy of Bangladesh in Egypt organized a seminar on the life and achievements of the Founding Father of Bangladesh Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman



Embassy of Bangladesh in Egypt organized a seminar on the life and achievements of the Founding Father of Bangladesh Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to celebrate his birth centenary at Sheraton Cairo Hotel on June 20, 2021. The year also marks the Golden Jubilee of Bangladesh's independence which

was celebrated earlier by this Embassy as elsewhere in the world.

The wonderful evening started with the welcome speech by Ambassador of Bangladesh to Egypt Mr. Monirul Islam, followed by speeches of the guest speakers who talked about various aspects of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's life.

In his speech as the first guest speaker, Dr. Sheikh Shamim Hasnain, Senior Lecturer at the British University in Egypt presented a thorough analysis of Sheikh Mujib's political life, emphasizing on the historic 7th March Speech that was considered as Declaration of Independence. The speech was recognized by the UNESCO as part of

world's important documentary heritage and made to the list of the Memory of the World International Register. Next speaker was Dr. Mahmoud Sedqy Al-Hawwari, Director General of Council of Seniors of Al-Azhar Al-Sharif, who addressed Sheikh Mujib's leadership traits and their significant impact on laying the foundation of independent Bangladesh. He called Bangabandhu a courageous reformer and urged to foster the seeds of good work and to follow his path towards building a fair society that enjoys freedom and equal rights.

In her speech, Dr. Leila Ketty, Professor at British University Cairo, emphasized on "Friendship to all, malice to none", the foreign policy principle set by the Founding father and implemented by his daughter Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. She found great similarities between Sheikh Mujib and President Abraham Lincoln, who was the pioneer of freedom and justice in America. The chief guest of the seminar, Dr. Essam Abdel-Aziz Sharaf, Egyptian academic and former Prime Minister of the country delivered the closing remarks. He called his

fellow Egyptians, especially the young generation to study Bangabandhu's struggle, achievements and contribution to seek inspiration.

Ambassador Monirul Islam talked about the significance of Bangabandhu's Birth Centenary. He appealed his fellow citizens to follow Bangabandhu's lead towards building his "Sonar Bangla" the Golden Bengal. The program also included recitation of poetry, rendering songs and was served with traditional dinner.

“ASEM at 25: Strengthening Asia-Europe Partnership in a Transforming World”

Bangladesh Ambassador to Vietnam Ms. Samina Naz participated in the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) High-level Policy Dialogue, themed “ASEM at 25: Strengthening Asia-Europe Partnership in a Transforming World” on 22 June 2021. The meeting was chaired by Vietnamese Minister of Foreign Affairs, Deputy Prime Minister of Cambodia, Vice President of the European Commission and High Representative of the European Union, Minister for Foreign Affairs of UK, Russia, South Korea, Singapore and Portugal also participated in the meeting. The meeting also was attended by nearly 200 delegates representing government agencies, academy, businesses and social organizations from 53 ASEM member countries and representatives from WEF, UNDP in Vietnam.



► H.E. Ms. Samina Naz with other Dignitaries in ASEM Meeting

Bangladesh Embassy in Amman handed over medical assistance to the State of Palestine

The Embassy has handed over medicines sent by the Government of Bangladesh for the people of Palestine as aid. In an informal ceremony, the Ambassador handed over the aid to the Secretary

General of the Jordan Hashemite Charity in the presence of a representative of the Palestinian Embassy in Jordan. Dr. Hussein Shibli, Secretary General of the Hashemite Charity Foundation,

who attended the event, thanked the Ambassador and acknowledged the support of Bangladesh for the peoples of Palestine. He added that the medical assistance provided by the Bangladesh

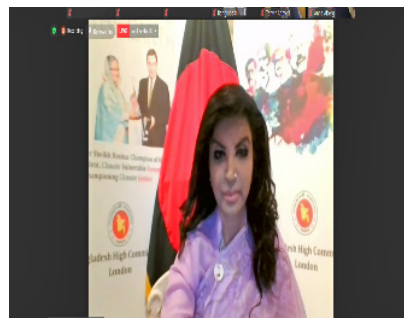


government will strengthen the moral strength of the Palestinian people. He

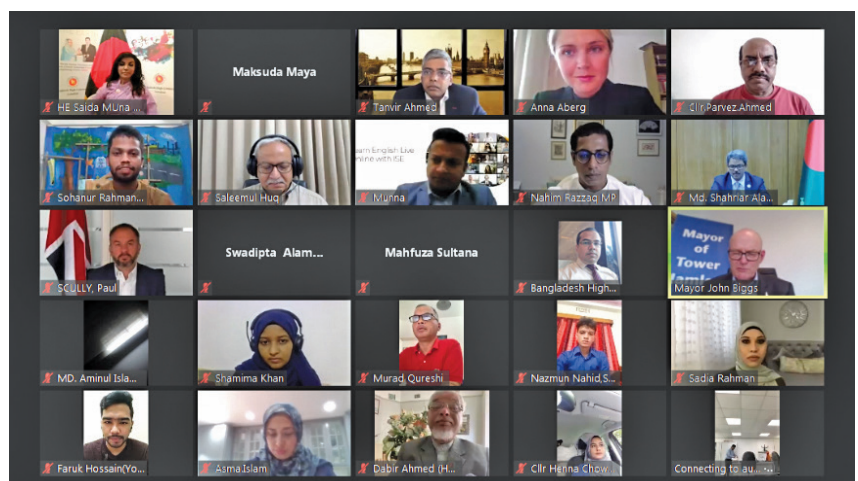
also lauded the humanitarian generosity of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, the

architect of Bangladesh's progress, and lauded her strong leadership.

Bangladesh High Commission in collaboration with Tower Hamlets Council organized Youth Climate Dialogue: Bangladesh –UK Youth Voices on Climate Action on the occasion of Golden Jubilee of Independence, 25 June 2021



As a part of Joint celebration of Golden Jubilee of independence of Bangladesh, Bangladesh High Commission in collaboration with Tower Hamlets Council organized a **Youth Climate Dialogue: Bangladesh –UK Youth Voices on Climate Action** participated by more than 20 youths from Bangladesh and UK on 25 June 2021. Hon'ble State Minister H.E. Md. Shahrar Alam MP and London Minister Paul Scully MP participated as Chief guest and Guest of Honor respectively. Bangladesh High commissioner to the London H.E. Saïda Muna Tasneem and Tower Hamlets Council Mayor Mr. John Biggs were the Co-Chair of the event. Mr. Nahim Razzaq MP, Convenor, Climate Parliament Bangladesh and APPG Chair Rushanara



Ali MP participated in the program. Professor Saleemul Huq, Head of the Expert Advisory Group for the CVF, Mr. Zafar Sobhan, Editor, Dhaka Tribune

joined the program. Dhaka Tribune and channel S were media partners where the Youths shared their climate concerns and expectations at the COP 26.

Visit to Juweideh Rehabilitation Center by Embassy Officials in Amman

Bangladesh Ambassador to Jordan Ms. Nahida Sobhan visited the Juweideh Rehabilitation Center on 23 June, 2021. There are 52 female Bangladeshi detainees staying in the center. The Ambassador handed over some necessary items to the Director of the Center for distribution among the Bangladeshi detainees. The items included clothes, shampoo, soap, sanitary products, toothpaste and mobile cards for 52 female detainees. The Ambassador also met 3 detainees, listened to them and requested the Director to provide all kinds of supports to the detainees. The detainees thanked the Embassy for the support and also for the legal help they received from the Embassy.



► H.E. Ms. Samina Naz with other Dignitaries in ASEM Meeting

A Seminar on Bangabandhu and Bangladesh: Vision for Peace and Development held in Baze University, Abuja



Bangladesh High Commission in Nigeria held a seminar on 'Bangabandhu and Bangladesh: Vision for Peace and Development' in Baze University, Abuja on 24 June 2021 to mark the Birth Centenary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The seminar

focused on Bangabandhu's historic and visionary role for the emergence of Bangladesh and its constitution, while delving into his peace centric agenda for development. Professor Dr. Tahir Mamman, Vice Chancellor of Baze University, Abuja, Mr. Masudur Rahman,

High Commissioner of Bangladesh to Nigeria and Dr. Mani Ibrahim Ahmad, Registrar, Baze University, Abuja were the discussants in the seminar while Faculty heads, about 100 students, and Bangladesh community were present.

Bangladesh Embassy, Tokyo organized Seminar on Trade, Investment and Skilled Human Resources

The Bangladesh Embassy, Tokyo organized "Bangladesh Seminar on Trade, Investment and Skilled Human Resources" on 30 June 2021 at Granship: Shizuoka Convention & Arts Center in Shizuoka City situated on the south coast

of Japan. Representatives of Japanese business organizations and manpower recruiting organizations were present at the event.

Bangladesh Ambassador to Japan Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed gave a welcome

speech. Highlighting Japan's involvement in various mega projects in Bangladesh, he urged Japanese businessmen and investors to take the opportunity and invest in sectors such as information technology, garment industry, leather

and leather goods. In the context of the decreasing population in Japan, the Ambassador urged Japan's manpower recruiting agencies to recruit semi-skilled and skilled workers from Bangladesh. A number of presentations were made including by Ms. Seiko Yamabe, Deputy Director, South Asia Division, JICA who presented on Japanese investment in Bangladesh and a recorded video presentation by Mr. Yuji Ando, Country Representative, JETRO Bangladesh. From Embassy, the Commercial Counsellor, Dr. Ariful Haque, presented on the trade and



investment opportunities in Bangladesh while the Labour Counsellor, Mr. Zakir Hossain, discussed the development of human resources in Bangladesh.

Presentation of Credentials by the non-resident Ambassador of Bangladesh to Kosovo

Bangladesh Ambassador Mr. Md. Mosharraf Hossain Bhuiyan, ndc presented his credentials to the President of the Republic of Kosovo, H.E. Dr. Vjosa Osmani- Sadriu in a ceremony at the office of the President in Pristina on 30 June 2021.



► Bangladesh Ambassador is handing over the credentials to the President of the Republic of Kosovo, H.E. Dr. Vjosa Osmani- Sadriu

In a meeting afterwards, the President congratulated the Ambassador on his new appointment as non-resident Ambassador of Bangladesh to Kosovo. Bangladesh Ambassador conveyed to the President the sincere greetings and best wishes from the Hon'ble President of Bangladesh and the Hon'ble Prime Minister.

Later, Bangladesh Ambassador informed the President about the socio-economic developments taking place in Bangladesh under the leadership of the Hon'ble Prime

Minister. Also, the ongoing Covid-19 crisis and vaccine issue, development of investment and trade relations, signing of the Avoidance of Double Taxation Treaty, ease of visa for diplomatic and official passport holders, cultural exchange etc. were discussed. The Kosovo President sought the support of Bangladesh for

Kosovo's accession in the UN and other international forums. In response, the Ambassador mentioned the similar history of struggle for Independence of both countries and added that Bangladesh is always in support of Kosovo as a good friend.

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