

Newsletter

Bangladesh Embassy Tokyo

April 2023

Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Concludes Visit to Japan

Arrival

The Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina has concluded an official visit to Japan from 25 to 28 April 2023 at the invitation of the Prime Minister of Japan, H.E. Fumio Kishida. A warm welcome was accorded to the Hon'ble Prime Minister on her arrival at the Haneda International Airport by a Special Chartered Flight of Bangladesh Biman on 25 April 2023. During the visit the Hon'ble Prime Minister was accorded the highest honor and elaborate courtesies which were not seen in an official visit in recent times. Last time similar courtesies were offered in 2014. During the visit the Hon'ble Prime Minister was hosted in the Akasaka Palace State Guest House. On her arrival at Haneda International Airport by a Special Chartered Flight of Bangladesh Biman, a smartly turned-out contingent

of Japan's Self-Defense Force presented the ceremonial Guard of Honor. A red-carpet reception was laid down at the tarmac of the VIP area at Haneda International Airport. State Minister for Foreign Affairs H.E. Mr. YAMADA Kenji along with the Chief of Protocol of Japan, Ambassador Takehiro Shimada and Ambassador IWAMA Kiminori se Ambassador of Japan to Bangladesh received her at the ceremonial line from Japanese side. H.E. Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed and Mrs. Shahina Akhter received the Hon'ble Prime Minister with flowers on arrival accompanied by Mr. Shah Asif Rahman, Deputy Chief of Mission. A ceremonial motorcade then departed with the Hon'ble Prime Minister to the Akasaka Palace State Guest House where she stayed during her official visit



A warm welcome was accorded to the Hon'ble Prime Minister on her arrival



A red-carpet reception was laid down at the tarmac of the VIP area at Haneda International Airport

Imperial audience

Bangladesh made a special request to arrange an audience for the Hon'ble Prime Minister with the His Majesty the Emperor Naruhito. It may

be mentioned that the Hon'ble Prime Minister had met with the previous His Majesty the Emperor and now Emperor Emeritus Akihito. However, since the coronation of Emperor Naruhito in 2019 there was

no meeting. Due to pandemic, the emperor was also not available except for Heads of State level meeting or only for ceremonial occasions. The Embassy pursued the request closely with the Foreign Ministry in Tokyo and the meeting was fixed after the final confirmation of the Imperial Household. The audience for the Hon'ble Prime Minister with the His Majesty the Emperor was the first Head of

Government level meeting with the Emperor arranged after the pandemic. This was an exclusive one-to-one meeting. The Emperor welcomed the Hon'ble Prime Minister. As reported when the Prime Minister expressed her gratitude for the support from Japan, such as the provision of vaccines during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Emperor said that the relationship between the two countries was rising.



Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina met His Majesty the Emperor of Japan Naruhito at the Imperial Palace in Tokyo on 26 April 2023

In addition, His Majesty said that it was very important for young people to interact with each other, and he was pleased to see many international students from Bangladesh studying in Japan. As reported, the Emperor sympathized with the Prime Minister, whose father and the first President of Bangladesh, who is known as the "Father of the Nation" was assassinated in 1975. The Prime Minister, who lived in exile after his father was assassinated in a coup d'état, returned to the country and made efforts to realize her father's dream of making the country prosperous and stabilizing the lives of the people. The Emperor expressed his respect for the Prime Minister's efforts so far.



Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and His Majesty the Emperor of Japan Naruhito at the Imperial Palace in Tokyo

Bilateral Summit

The bilateral talks between Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her Japanese counterpart Fumio Kishida took place at the Prime Minister's Office in Tokyo on 26th April 2023. At the initial greetings exchange (in front of the Press) the Hon'ble Prime Minister mentioned that last year Bangladesh celebrated her 50th

anniversary of diplomatic relations. Also this year is the 50th year of her father and Father of the Nation's visit to Japan in 1973. She opined that Bangladesh and Japan have friendly relations, and she hopes to it will increase more. The Summit featured discussion on issues of mutual interest and was held in a frank and candid manner



The bilateral talks between Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Fumio Kishida

Prime Minister Kishida covered issues following the content of the Joint Statement that the two leaders would sign after the Summit. He mentioned his new plan for Free and Open Indo-Pacific and said that support to Bangladesh would continue under the BIG-B initiative as well as the newly launched concept of Industrial Value Chain connecting the Bay of Bengal and neighboring regions, the defense cooperation including the MoU to be worked upon for defense purchase under Official Security

Assistance (OSA), economic cooperation with the pledge of announcing 30 billion yen, joint study of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), Biman resumption of direct flight between Narita and Dhaka, and the establishment of the friendship city relations between Naruto city in Tokushima and Narayanganj city and the start of local tests for the Specified Skilled Worker (SSW) system in Bangladesh.



Signing and declaring Joint Statement



The Hon'ble Prime Minister in reply informed that Bangladesh has recently announced her "Indo-Pacific Outlook" and stated that to promote this vision in practice, Bangladesh and Japan may work together for promoting Blue Economy in the Bay of Bengal with the advance technical know-how of Japan in the areas like deep sea fishing and other areas, specially thanked Japan for the 30 billion yen pledge which will be helpful for Bangladesh's LDC graduation, raised the concern regarding the revised interest rate of JICA announced for March, 2023 amounting to 1.20% to reduce to below 1.0% as an increase will be difficult for Bangladesh and thus

requested to lower this, requested for early resumption of JOCV volunteers. The Japanese side referred to the international money market from where they lend money has been taken into account while suggesting the new rate and were unable to reduce it. Regarding the JOCV they will consider as early as possible considering the security environment in Bangladesh. The discussion between the two prime ministers continued for more than an hour on regional and international issues including the forcibly displaced Rohingya issue over the dinner which was held in the Japanese Prime Minister's residence

Japan-Bangladesh Joint Statement on Strategic Partnership

During the visit, Prime Minister Kishida had a summit meeting with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on 26th April 2023.

Following the bilateral summit meeting the two prime ministers signed the Joint Statement on Bangladesh Japan "Strategic Partnership". The two Prime Ministers confirmed that, guided by the traditional and time-tested friendship since the independence of Bangladesh, the two countries have achieved significant progress in bilateral relations based on the "Comprehensive Partnership" established in 2014..



After Declaring Japan-Bangladesh Joint Statement on Strategic Partnership

Noting that the two countries celebrated the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations in 2022, as a manifestation of commitment and determination to contribute to enhancing the bilateral relationship based on common values and mutual interests, they decided to elevate the bilateral relationship to a "Strategic Partnership" as a guiding principle to lead the two countries' journey into the next 50 years and beyond.

Joint Statement on Strategic Partnership

Cooperation for Peace and Stability in the Region and Beyond

- 1) Guided by the fundamental values and principles shared by the two countries, the two Prime Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to realizing a free and open Indo-Pacific based on the rule of law, where the rights, freedoms and sovereignty of all countries, regardless of size or power, are protected by international law, rules and norms. In particular, they affirmed that maritime order based on common values such as freedom of navigation is a cornerstone for stability and prosperity of the international community and that the use of the sea as global commons will contribute to the development of blue economy. Prime Minister Kishida explained that Japan, as the G7 Presidency, would like to demonstrate the G7's determination to uphold the free and open international order based on the rule of law and to enhance relations with partners in the international community beyond the G7. Prime Minister Hasina felicitated Japan on its G7 presidency. Prime Minister Kishida also outlined a newly released plan for a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)", which will strengthen Japan's efforts to further promote the FOIP vision, with the four pillars of cooperation: "Principles for Peace and Rules for Prosperity," "Addressing Challenges in an Indo-Pacific Way," "Multi-layered Connectivity," and "Extending Efforts for Security and Safe Use of the "Sea" to the "Air". Prime Minister Hasina appreciated Japan's sustained efforts to contribute to securing regional and international peace, stability, and prosperity. She reiterated Bangladesh's principled position on a free, open, inclusive, peaceful and secure Indo Pacific based on international law and shared prosperity for all.
- 2) Recognizing the importance of Bangladesh, which holds great economic potential and can be a bridge between huge economic markets, namely South Asia and Southeast Asia, the two Prime Ministers shared the recognition that developing quality infrastructure will enhance regional connectivity and contribute to the development of Bangladesh and the region. In this context, they stressed the importance of transparent and fair development finance to achieve sustainable development and highlighted the importance of adhering to international rules and standards, such as debt sustainability and transparency. They also shared the recognition on the importance of economic security including strengthening resilience of supply chain, and the rules-based international economic order to counter challenges such as economic coercion.
- 3) The two Prime Ministers welcomed recent frequent port calls at Chattogram by vessels of the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) and the high-level mutual visits of the Japan Self-Defense Forces and Bangladesh Armed Forces. In light of the Memorandum of Cooperation and Exchanges formulated between the defense authorities from the two sides, they concurred to continue to promote security cooperation such as mutual visits by vessels and aircraft, unit-to-unit exchange, training programmes and goodwill exercises. In addition, both Prime Ministers have decided to consider opening Defense Wing in Tokyo and National Security Wing in Dhaka in their respective embassies in the near future. Furthermore, they concurred to enhance dialogue among the respective diplomatic and defense authorities in order to identify possible ways to strengthen the security cooperation. In this context, recognizing the future potential, they welcomed the commencement of negotiations on Agreement concerning the Transfer of Defense Equipment and Technology. Prime Minister Kishida explained Japan's efforts for fundamentally reinforcing its defense capabilities and strengthening diplomatic efforts, as illustrated in the new National Security Strategy, National Defense Strategy, and Defense Buildup Program. Prime Minister Hasina shared Bangladesh's plan and initiative for further modernizing its armed forces under the Forces Goal 2030. Both Prime Ministers acknowledged the efforts by both countries to contribute to their respective regional security. Prime Minister Hasina acknowledged the establishment of the Official Security Assistance by Japan, a new cooperation framework for the benefit of armed forces and other related organizations of like-minded countries for the purpose of deepening security cooperation and looked forward to future cooperation under this framework.
- 4) Recalling the relevant United Nations (UN) General Assembly resolutions, the two Prime Ministers affirmed that the war in Ukraine constitutes a violation of international law, in particular of the UN Charter, and is a serious threat to the international order based on the rule of law, with ramifications well beyond Europe, including in the Nonpacific. They reiterated the call for a peace process through dialogue and diplomacy with respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders and in accordance with the principles of the UN Charter. They expressed their deep concerns at the loss of lives from this war and urged for putting an end to civilian casualties and unimpeded access for humanitarian assistance. In this context, they reaffirmed their consistent support for the Ukrainian people and emphasized that any threat to use nuclear weapons is unacceptable and stressed that the use of nuclear weapons cannot be an option under any circumstances. They shared the view that the securities of Europe and of the Indo-Pacific are inseparable and also asserted that conflict in any region has ramifications in the Indo-Pacific. In this context, they expressed opposition to any unilateral attempts to change the status quo by force or coercion anywhere in the world. They also shared the concerns that the war in Ukraine is putting global energy and food security at risk. In this regard, they called on all parties to continue to cooperate within the framework for grain exports under the four-party agreement.
- 5) Prime Minister Kishida explained the situation in the East and South China Seas to Prime Minister Hasina. The two Prime Ministers expressed their commitment to fully observing the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and reiterated that any unilateral attempts to change the status quo by force or coercion and increase tensions that could undermine regional stability and the rules-based international order are unacceptable. They also underscored the importance of the freedom of navigation overall and overflight of the high seas and civil aviation safety, in accordance with the principles of international law and the relevant standards and recommended practices of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).
- 6) The two Prime Ministers shared their strong concerns over DPRK's continued development of nuclear weapons and ballistic missile programs in violation of UN Security Council resolutions (UNSCRs). They urged DPRK to comply fully with its obligations under all relevant UNSCRs. They further urged DPRK to address the humanitarian concerns of the international community and resolve the abductions issue immediately.
- 7) The two Prime Ministers expressed concerns over the situation in Myanmar and called for an end to violence and armed conflicts, the release of those who are detained and the upholding of a democratic process. They reaffirmed their support for ASEAN efforts to seek a solution in Myanmar and appreciated ASEAN Chair's active engagement in this regard. They called on the Myanmar authorities to urgently implement ASEAN's Five-Point Consensus. They are also deeply concerned that the neighboring countries, including Bangladesh, are facing spillover effects arising from the situation in Myanmar and demanded responsible acts by the Myanmar authorities.

- 8) Prime Minister Kishida commended Bangladesh for temporarily sheltering the forcibly displaced persons from Rakhine State, Myanmar and extending continued humanitarian assistance to them under the personal leadership of Prime Minister Hasina. The two Prime Ministers shared the view that protracted displacement will lead to increased burden on the host communities and instability in the region and that an ultimate solution to this crisis for peace and stability across the region is to realize a sustainable, safe, voluntary, and dignified repatriation of the displaced persons to Myanmar. Prime Minister Hasina stressed on the need for measures to be taken by the Myanmar authorities to create an environment conducive for the early return of the displaced population, including through addressing the root causes behind displacement. Prime Minister Hasina expressed her appreciation for Japan's support for the displaced persons thus far, including its humanitarian assistance as the first country to do so for those resettled in Bhasan Char. Prime Minister Kishida reiterated Japan's continuous support for them and announced the decision about additional support for the host communities and the displaced persons, including those in Bhasan Char, on top of approximately 2.3 billion yen through international organizations in February and March 2023 and the previous support worth approximately 190 million US dollars. The two Prime Ministers shared the importance of providing appropriate assistance such as education and skills training for their self-reliant lives after repatriation. Prime Minister Kishida expressed his intention to provide educational opportunities in Japan for students who were displaced from Myanmar to Bangladesh and deprived of schooling opportunities.
- 9) The two Prime Ministers affirmed their support to multilateralism based on the rule of law. They renewed their determination to work together with a view to strengthening the United Nations as a whole, including early reform of the Security Council, in order to deal with serious issues, the international community is facing. Prime Minister Kishida expressed his gratitude to Bangladesh for its consistent support for the UN Security Council reform, including Japan becoming a permanent member.
- 10) Prime Minister Kishida appreciated Bangladesh's leadership and active role as the largest contributor of troops to United Nations peacekeeping operations as well as in its capacity as the Chair of the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission for the year 2022. Prime Minister Hasina thanked the Government of Japan for its readiness to continue its cooperation with the 'Peace Building Center' in Bangladesh. The two Prime Ministers concurred to continue promoting cooperation on peacekeeping.
- 11) The two Prime Ministers affirmed their commitment to realizing a world without nuclear weapons. The two leaders reaffirmed that the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) is the cornerstone of the international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime and essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. They stressed that the 40-year long decline in global nuclear arsenals must be sustained and not reversed. In this respect, Prime Minister Hasina acknowledged Prime Minister Kishida's efforts on nuclear disarmament in line with the "Hiroshima Action Plan" and appreciated Japan's initiative to submit a Resolution entitled "Steps to building a common roadmap towards a world without nuclear weapons," adopted by the Plenary Meeting of the UN General Assembly in December 2022. Prime Minister Kishida expressed his appreciation for Bangladesh's support.
- 12) The two Prime Ministers shared their concerns over international terrorism and underscored the importance of disrupting terrorist networks and financing channels, as well as halting cross-border movement of terrorists. Prime Minister Hasina reiterated that her government maintains a "zero tolerance" approach to all forms of terrorisms, financing of terrorism and violent extremism, and has managed to suppress terrorist networks, including through effective community participation. Prime Minister Kishida appreciated her leadership and requested continuous efforts for securing the safety of Japanese nationals in Bangladesh, including those dedicated to international cooperation projects and Japanese business, and for enhancing efforts to counter violent extremism. They confirmed their intention to maintain cooperation in countering terrorism.

Deepening Economic Cooperation for Mutual Benefit and Regional Prosperity

- 13) Recalling Japan's commitment to provide assistance of up to 600 billion yen in about 4 to 5 years from 2014 expressed in the Joint Statement on 26th May 2014, the two Prime Ministers noted with satisfaction the successful fulfilment of the pledge. They further expressed satisfaction that Japan's assistance since 2014 totaled more than 2 trillion yen. Prime Minister Kishida congratulated Bangladesh on its graduation from Least Developed Countries (LDC) category with effect from 2026 and expressed his decision to continuously support Bangladesh's efforts towards its LDC graduation and further development. Prime Minister Hasina expressed her sincere gratitude for Japan's tremendous and effective support over the past 50 years as the largest bilateral development partner and acknowledged that the Japanese assistance had contributed greatly to its LDC graduation. They expressed their satisfaction with the progress of the Bay of Bengal Industrial Growth Belt (BIG-B) initiative and welcomed the commercial opening of Dhaka Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) Line 6, the first electric train in Bangladesh, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations in 2022. They reaffirmed that the development of Bangladesh through regional connectivity would contribute to the overall stability of the Indo-Pacific region and that the two countries would continue to 1) develop economic infrastructure, 2) improve investment environment, and 3) enhance regional connectivity, in Bangladesh under the BIG-B initiative as well as the newly launched concept of Industrial Value Chain connecting the Bay of Bengal and neighboring regions. They decided to resume a bilateral policy dialogue in carrying out development cooperation projects. Prime Minister Kishida assured Prime Minister Hasina to consider a new budget support loan.
- 14) The two Prime Ministers welcomed the significant progress in the projects in Southern Chattogram region, including Matarbari deep sea port under the BIG-B initiative. They affirmed their continuous and accelerated cooperation so that Matarbari Port can become a hub of energy, logistics and industry in Bangladesh by using Japanese expertise and technology and can enhance connectivity between Bangladesh and its neighboring countries. They affirmed that two countries would explore cooperation in developing Southern Chattogram region including the improvement of ChattogramCox's Bazar Highway. Prime Minister Hasina expressed her intention to make progress towards the early establishment of the Moheshkhali-Matarbari Integrated Infrastructure Development Initiative (MIDI) Authority under the Government of Bangladesh. Both Prime Ministers shared their intention to develop MIDI Master Plan.
- 15) Prime Minister Hasina welcomed the increasing number of Japanese companies in Bangladesh on the backdrop of the country's high economic growth. While Prime Minister Hasina pointed out the need to transform Bangladesh's economic structure to be a high-middle income country by 2031 and a smart developed country by 2041, the two Prime Ministers welcomed the launch of the Bangladesh-Japan Industry Upgradation Partnership for enhancement of industry in Bangladesh through publicprivate cooperation and recognized the need for cooperation in the field of intellectual property to promote investment and improve the business environment. They hoped that the Bangladesh Special Economic Zone (BSEZ), which was inaugurated in December 2022 in Araihasar for Japanese and international companies will further deepen economic partnership

between the two countries. With a view to enhancing economic exchange between the two countries, Prime Minister Kishida emphasized the necessity of continuous improvement of investment climate in Bangladesh and the two Prime Ministers welcomed good progress and resolution of some investment issues faced by Japanese companies through the Japan-Bangladesh Public Private Joint Economic Dialogue (PPED). Prime Minister Hasina assured of addressing the outstanding investment related issues flagged by the Japanese investors and expressed her commitment to further improving investment climate to encourage more Foreign Direct Investment from Japan in Bangladesh. The two Prime Ministers welcomed the result of the 5th PPED in April and concurred to hold the 6th Dialogue in Tokyo at the earliest in 2023 to review the progress in investment climate and investment promotion on a regular basis.

- 16) The two Prime Ministers welcomed the successful conduct of the first meeting of the Joint Study Group on the possibility of a Japan-Bangladesh Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) in April 2023 and expected its steady progress. They also welcomed the signing of the Customs Mutual Assistance Agreement with a view to promoting further cooperation between the respective Customs Administrations.
- 17) The two Prime Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the progress of seven joint PPP projects reviewed in the 5th Bangladesh-Japan Joint PPP Platform Meeting held in Tokyo on 4th October 2022, and the 1st working level meeting based on revised MOC held in Dhaka on 8th February 2023, which encourages Japanese companies to expand their investment in Bangladesh and give a stronger boost to Bangladesh's development potential.
- 18) Prime Minister Hasina expressed gratitude to Japan's timely support for countermeasures against COVID-19 such as provision of 4.55 million doses of vaccines through COVAX, grant aid and support through contribution to international organizations as well as fiscal support loan amounting to 75 billion yen in total. The two Prime Ministers consented to continuously cooperate in the fight against COVID-19 and for the early recovery of the economy.
- 19) The two Prime Ministers acknowledged the need for intensified global efforts to combat climate change. Prime Minister Hasina acknowledged Japan's efforts to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement and Prime Minister Kishida appreciated Bangladesh's active efforts during its tenure as the Chair of the Climate Vulnerability Forum and launching of Mujib Climate Prosperity Plan with a view to moving from "one of vulnerability to resilience and climate prosperity". Prime Minister Hasina apprised Prime Minister Kishida of her government's formulation of Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100 in 2018. Welcoming the cooperation between the two countries in increasing energy efficiency and capacity and promoting renewable energy through the implementation of the Joint Crediting Mechanism consistent with the Article 6 of the Paris Agreement and the cooperation to formulate the power and energy masterplan by JICA, they concurred to step up cooperation under Japan's Asia Energy Transition Initiative. They also welcomed Japan's support to Bangladesh for the formulation of ambitious and long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies. They underlined the importance of cooperation on earthquake, tsunami and cyclone-related disaster risk reduction. Both Prime Ministers expressed their intention to work actively toward successfully implementing the COP27 decision concerning loss and damage and affirmed to work together towards the success of COP28.
- 20) Prime Minister Hasina thanked Japan for its past support in the ICT sector for "Digital Bangladesh", including Miyazaki Bangladesh Model, and both leaders welcomed the signing of "the Memorandum of Cooperation in the field of Information and Communication Technology including Cybersecurity". Prime Minister Hasina invited investments in IT/ITES sector from Japan in Bangladesh's High-Tech Parks.
- 21) The two Prime Ministers welcomed the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation with a view to enhancing agro-based business and promoting investments. The two Prime Ministers recognized the importance of establishing food value chain by beneficial trade and investments in and cooperation on technologies and innovation with Bangladesh. They emphasized meaningful cooperation, particularly in the fields of adoption of new technology, agro- and food-processing and distribution, etc. for achieving sustainable food system. In this context, Prime Minister Hasina expressed her interest in promoting cooperation in the area of coastal aquaculture and deep-sea fishing with aim to harness the possibility of Blue Economy.
- 22) The two Prime Ministers affirmed the importance of economic development, rule of law and effective, accountable and inclusive institutions for achieving SDGs, and also affirmed the importance of developing highly skilled human resources in public and private sectors and realize sustainable high economic growth. In this regard, the two Prime Ministers acknowledged the importance and progress of legal technical assistance provided by Japan. Prime Minister Kishida expressed his intention to continue wide cooperation in this area with Bangladesh including through sharing the experience of development in Japan and other Asian countries and people-to-people exchange between Japan and Bangladesh in order to develop human resources in public and private sectors in Bangladesh.
- 23) The two Prime Ministers acknowledged that Bangladesh's abundant young labor force will contribute to supplement Japan's labor shortage. In this context, Prime Minister Hasina welcomed the starting of skill exams and Japanese language tests of the Specified Skilled Workers in Bangladesh in February 2023, and expected further assistance for Japanese language education for Specified Skilled Workers. Both Prime Ministers welcomed the progress in the Technical Intern Training Program since both sides signed the Memorandum of Cooperation in 2018 and expressed their intention to utilize the scheme to promote skills transfer.
- 24) Prime Minister Hasina recalled that Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) had been working closely with the local people and had played a major role for the development of Bangladesh and people-to-people exchange, and Prime Minister Kishida expressed his willingness to resume the dispatch of JOCV as early as possible to Bangladesh, while taking into account safety measures.
- 25) Prime Minister Kishida expected that Bangladesh will accede to the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009 (HKC) at its earliest opportunity. Prime Minister Hasina expressed her intention to make efforts for the early accession to the HKC in 2023. In response, Prime Minister Kishida expressed his intention to consider supporting Bangladesh's efforts in the area of ship recycling, taking into account Bangladesh's need for the development of a Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facility (TSDF).

Expansion of Cultural Cooperation and People-to-People Exchanges

- 26) Prime Minister Hasina appreciated Japan's support for construction of Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport Terminal 3 and both leaders welcomed the selection of the concession project for the Terminal 3 by Japanese companies on the PPP platform. The Prime Ministers welcomed the planned resumption of the flight between Dhaka and Narita by Biman Bangladesh Airlines. The two Prime Ministers expressed their expectation that it would further expand the bilateral exchange and people-to-people contact.
- 27) The two Prime Ministers welcomed recent people-to-people exchange such as the establishment of the first friendship-city relationship of two countries between Naruto City in Tokushima and Narayanganj as well as the first dispatch from Bangladesh through JET programme. They expressed their intention to promote exchanges in various areas such as between academic institutions and think-tanks including in the areas of science and technology as well as in youth and sports, tourism, etc. Prime Minister Hasina expressed Bangladesh's intention to participate in the Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan, as an opportunity to further strengthen and broaden trade, investment and people-to-people links between the two countries. Prime Minister Kishida welcomed Bangladesh's participation and expressed his gratitude for Prime Minister Hasina's support for its success.
- 28) The two Prime Ministers appreciated the role played by institutions such as the Japanese Language and Culture program of the Institute of Modern Languages, University of Dhaka, the Department of Japanese Studies, University of Dhaka and Japanese Universities Alumni Association in Bangladesh (JUAAB) in the fields of Japanese language education and Japanese studies. They expressed their shared intention to continue to support them.
- 29) The two Prime Ministers welcomed high-level exchanges and commemorative events during the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic relations between Japan and Bangladesh in 2022 including the commemorative coin between Japan Mint and Bangladesh Bank as well as specially designed postage stamp for the commemoration between Bangladesh Embassy in Tokyo and Japan Post and affirmed that they will continue to boost momentum of bilateral relations through high level exchanges including parliamentary exchanges and cultural exchanges furthermore in the future.
- 30) Prime Minister Hasina expressed her deep appreciation to Prime Minister Kishida and to the people of Japan for the warm welcome and gracious hospitality extended to her during the visit. Prime Minister Hasina extended her cordial invitation to Prime Minister Kishida to visit Bangladesh. Prime Minister Kishida appreciated the invitation with deep gratitude and conveyed his intention to visit Bangladesh at a mutually convenient time.

Documents exchanged during the Summit Meeting

Bangladesh and Japan signed eight instruments during the Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's four-day official state visit to Japan, which can be

termed as a very substantive outcome. The instruments were exchanged between the representatives of Bangladesh and Japan in presence the two prime ministers at the Prime Minister's Office in Tokyo. The list of documents are as follows::

1. Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh on Cooperation and Mutual Assistance in Customs Matters.
2. Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Government of Japan and Ministry of Agriculture, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.
3. Memorandum of Cooperation in the field of Information and Communication Technology including Cybersecurity between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and ICT Division, Ministry of Posts, Telecommunication and IT, the People's Republic of Bangladesh.
4. Memorandum of Cooperation between the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, the Government of Japan and the Ministry of Commerce, the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh on Bangladesh-Japan Industry Upgradation Partnership.
5. Memorandum on Defense Cooperation and Exchanges between the Ministry of Defense of Japan and Armed Forces Division, Prime Minister's Office, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
6. Memorandum of Cooperation between Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan and Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges of Bangladesh on Cooperation in the field of Metro Rail
7. Memorandum of Cooperation between the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan and the Ministry of Industries of Bangladesh in the field of Ship Recycling
8. Memorandum of Cooperation between the Japan Patent Office and the Department of Patents, Designs and Trademarks of the People's Republic of Bangladesh on Intellectual Property.



Exchanging documents during the bilateral meeting

Calls on

In addition to the audience with His Majesty the Emperor and the bilateral summit meeting, the Hon'ble Prime Minister had participated in as many as 09 (nine) calls on during the very busy time in Tokyo. All the meetings took place in the Akasaka Palace State Guest House

Mr. Fumiya Kokubu, Chairman, Japan-Bangladesh Committee for Commercial & Economic Cooperation (JBCCEC) who is also the Chairman of Marubeni Corporation, met the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 26 April 2023. The Hon'ble Prime Minister urged him and Japanese companies to invest in big scale infrastructure projects, like power generation including in new and green technology like hydrogen cell or renewable energy projects in Matarbari. It may be recalled that JICA has called off its proposal for a second coal fired plant in Matarbari where Hon'ble Prime Minister invited Japan to consider investment in alternate energy project.



Marubeni is entering into IT business in Bangladesh and would like to make investment in Startups in Bangladesh. The Hon'ble Prime Minister stated that that the young people of Bangladesh can be trained and engaged in employment. She referred to Cox's bazar, the longest sea beach in the world where one piece of the beach area can be offered to Japan to invest and build own resort. She specifically referred to Sabrang Tourism Park where Japan can build tourism and complementary industries. The enclosed beach area can be dedicated to foreigners. She asked Ambassador of Japan, Iwama Kiminori, to visit Sabrang area. The Chairman JBCCEC expressed satisfaction over the 5th PPED meeting held on 11 April 2023 and look forward to hosting the next meeting in Tokyo.

Mr. Akihiko Tanaka, President of JICA called on the Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in Akasaka Palace, Tokyo on 26 April 2023. President Tanaka briefed that significant progress has been made in projects supported by JICA, such as the opening of MRT Line 6 and the Bangladesh Special Economic Zone (BSEZ). They recalled the meeting between Sheikh Hasina with the then Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe during her Japan visit in 2014. Since then, Japanese cooperation for Bangladesh increased significantly with special focus on the Moheshkali-Matarbari Integrated Infrastructure Development Initiative (MIDI) for the comprehensive development of the southern Chattogram region, including the Matarbari Deep Sea Port, under the Bay of Bengal Industrial Growth Belt (BIG-B) Initiative, which aims to improve Bangladesh's economic infrastructure, investment climate, and regional connectivity. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina expressed her appreciation for JICA's cooperation over the years. She also encouraged JICA to further strengthen the collaboration between the two countries for the growth of Bangladesh in future.

With Mr. Ishiguro Norihiko, Chairman and CEO, JETRO the two sides discussed excellent cooperation between JETRO, Japanese business and trading houses with Bangladeshi Chambers and businessmen that is promoting bilateral trade and commercial relations. JETRO together with BSEC and BIDA organized a Summit on "Trade & Investment Opportunities between Bangladesh and Japan" during the visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister on 27 April 2023.

Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina met senior politician **H.E. Mr. Taro Aso**, President of Japan-Bangladesh Parliamentary Friendship League (JBPFL) at Akasaka Palace Guest House in Tokyo, Japan (Wednesday, 26 April 2023). During the meeting Hon'ble Prime Minister had a frank discussion on domestic politics, regional situation and possible cooperation between the parliamentarians. She handed over a copy of "Bangabandhu Graphics Novel Mujib" in Japanese language based on Bangabandhu's autobiography "The Unfinished Memoirs

With Mr. Tadao Ando, Renowned Japanese Architect, the two sides discussed about the project on children's library to be built in Dhaka with the Bangladesh National Museum. Mr. Ando presented his book to Hon'ble Prime Minister. With H.E. **Mr. Yoshimasa Hayashi**, Foreign Minister of Japan, the meeting was held in a cordial environment. The Foreign Minister referred to high level visits that took place last year including two visits of the Hon'ble Foreign Minister to Japan, the commemorative events that were held in the two countries on the 50th anniversary occasion and expressed real confidence for a fruitful bilateral meeting to be held later on the day.



Hon'ble Prime Minister said that it was her 7th visit to Japan, and she feels it as a really great opportunity. The launch of comprehensive partnership was almost 9 years ago, and the momentum is there to elevate it to a strategic partnership. She recalled the contribution of Japanese people especially children and their contribution in 1971. The Father of the Nation wanted to build the newly independent country in the model of Japan. She appreciated Japan's help over the years. Foreign Minister Hayashi expressed sincere respect for Bangladesh's Prime Minister for her contribution to the bilateral relations over the years. He explained the FOIP outlook of Japan and want to have Bangladesh as partner. Prime Minister Kishida's view is to have cooperation rather than confrontation, emphasis on dialogue and engagement. He referred to Bangladesh as the most important country in this regard. The Hon'ble Prime



Minister said that the elevated partnership will create opportunities. We want a peaceful atmosphere, as without peace we cannot develop. She observed that all the countries should work in cooperation with each other. The two sides also discussed the upcoming G7 Summit in Hiroshima from 19-21 May 2023, strengthening of defense cooperation, Economic Partnership Agreement to be concluded soon to have concrete deliverables, Japan to continue to assist Bangladesh in LDC graduation, Japan as the largest development partner would continue efforts under Big-B, referred to the contribution of Late Shinzo Abe as FM Hayashi is also from same constituency (Yamaguchi) as FOIP was his idea. Hon'ble Prime Minister informed that she was going to meet Mrs. Abe with her sister. Mrs. Abe attended a book launching vent in 2019 with her sister, Sheikh Rehana. She also shared her experience of the attack on her life and how she survived due to people (human shield) protecting her. Foreign Minister Hayashi raised the issue of Japanese mother and Bangladeshi father on their children custody case and in consideration of the psychological balance of the children sought an early resolution of the matter. Hon'ble Prime Minister said that it was a court case, family court. She understands it was a pressing issue. But it was a judicious case. HPM sensitive on children suffering. She said we would wait for the verdict/decision. The two sides discussed further cooperation in human resources. Hon'ble Prime Minister said that Japan can train our young people with skill, and they can be employed. She also welcomed Japanese investment in 100 economic zone, ICT sector, mechanize agriculture and industrialization by Japan and in deep-sea fishing. At the end, Bangladesh side sought Japan's support for International Maritime Organization (IMO) Secretary General and Asian Development Bank Vice President posts. Bangladesh also requested Japan to



consider lowering of the recently announced high interest rate of 1.2% to below 1.0%.

Mr. **HAYASHI Nobumitsu**, Governor, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), met the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 28 April 2023. Mr. HAYASHI visited Bangladesh in February 2023. He requested Bangladesh to consider 'state guarantee' for the loans or credit taken by Japanese company in projects undertaken by Bangladesh including the sugar industry, biomass power generation, and prepaid gas meter industry. The

Hon'ble Prime Minister said that Bangladesh can give 'financial guarantee'.

Later, the Hon'ble Prime Minister attended a handing over event of the book named "Father of the Nation Bangabandhu" -in Manga style published by the Scholars Bangladesh Society and NS Publishers -Japan.

Friends of Liberation War Honor' to four Japanese Citizens

Honorable Prime Minister conferred "Friends of Liberation War Honour" to four Japanese eminent persons for their contribution towards the cause of

the liberation war of Bangladesh. The "Honours" were handed over by the HPM at a solemn ceremony organized by the Embassy on Thursday, 27 April 2023.



Honorable Prime Minister conferred "Friends of Liberation War Honour" to four Japanese eminent persons

The four recipients were (i) Mr. Tadateru Konoe, President Emeritus, Japan Red Cross Society, (ii) Mr. Gyalpo Pema, Professor, (iii) Late Mr. Hideo Takano, Political Leader, and (iv) Late Mr. Taizo Ichinose, Journalist/ Photographer. The first two of them received the "Honour" in person while the latter two were conferred posthumously. On behalf of the recipients, Mr. Gyalpo Pema delivered speech of acceptance thanking the Government and people of Bangladesh for honouring them however small their contributions were. In her speech as the Chief Guest, the HPM said that this "Honour" has been awarded to our foreign friends who in 1971 stood beside our suffering humanity in the time of suppression, brutality and genocide. These honourable citizens of Japan displayed indomitable courage in the face of all odds and tried to save human lives. They helped the cause of humanity and justice and thus were being "Honoured" now. During the ceremony, Honorable Rehana Siddique accompanied the HPM to hand over the award. Lt. Col (Rtd) Quazi Sajjad Ali Zahir conducted the program while Honorable Foreign Minister Dr. Abul Kalam Abdul Momen read out the citations. The ceremony was attended by eminent Japanese guests as well as distinguished members of Bangladesh delegation comprising more than a hundred audience at the Akasaka Palace, Tokyo.

Miraikan Visit

The Honorable Prime Minister visited the National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (Miraikan) on Thursday, 27 April 2023. HPM was received by Ms. Chieko Asakawa, PhD, Chief Executive Director of Miraikan and her team. After short briefing, she gave the HPM a personal tour of the museum: (a) Mission survival 10 billion - designed to better understand the natural calamities and other disasters threatening the modern society and how we should deal with them in near future; (b) AI suitcase - a navigation robot under development by Miraikan, that helps the visually impaired people move independently; (c) ISS – a module of international space station (ISS) that introduces life in space, messages and space research results; (d) Geo-Cosmos - a stunning 6m diameter spherical display made of 10,362 latest LED panels that shows a stunning realistic vision of the Earth; (e) Android - to reflect on human existence by observing the world's most advanced androids. Among others, the HPM was accompanied by Honorable Rehana Siddique, Hon'ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Hon'ble State Minister for ICT Division, Foreign Secretary, Bangladesh Ambassador to Japan, Economic Minister of the Embassy, DG of Bangladesh National Museum and others, while Ms. Asakawa was accompanied by Executive Directors Dr. Hironobu TAKAGI and Mr. ITO Yoichi and others. HPM was very enthusiastic about various exhibits and asked many questions to quench her inquisitiveness. She mentioned that this was a very good museum where the children should start.



Honorable Prime Minister visited the National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (Miraikan)

Trade and Investment Summit

On the morning of 27 April 2023, the Hon'ble Prime Minister had a meeting with the prominent trade and chambers President/Chairman like JBCCEC, JCCI, JETRO and President, CEOs and business leaders of Japan. During her interaction, she encouraged them to do more business and investment in Bangladesh. She assured them of the sustained efforts put in by her government to make the conducive business environment in Bangladesh for the Japanese businessmen and investors. The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) and Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA), in collaboration with the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) and The Japan-Bangladesh Committee for Commercial and Economic Co-operation (JBCCEC), jointly organized a Summit on "Trade & Investment Opportunities between Bangladesh and Japan" where more than 300 Japanese and Bangladeshi businessmen attended. A total 09 (nine) MoUs were signed between Bangladesh and Japanese companies, notable is Marubeni, Lion, Itochu, Sumitomo. JERA, MEDINA and Pipeline in diverse fields of manufacturing consumer goods, power and energy, IT, healthcare etc. There is progress in the Joint Study Group on the possibility of a Japan-Bangladesh Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), the first meeting of which was held in April in Tokyo. The 5th PPED meeting has been held online in April 2023 and the next one is expected to be held in Tokyo soon.



Hon'ble Prime Minister met the prominent trade and chambers President/Chairman like JBCCEC, JCCI, JETRO and President, CEOs and business leaders of Japan during Trade and Investment Summit held at hotel The Westin

Community Reception

The Hon'ble Prime Minister attended a grand reception organized by the Embassy in cooperation with the expatriate Bangladeshis living in Japan on 27 April 2023 at the hotel Westin, Tokyo. Nearly 500 hundred expatriates living in Japan spontaneously participated the program. The expatriate community was delighted to find the Hon'ble Prime Minister in their midst and giving guidance on their role and contribution to Japan and Bangladesh. She announced the operation of Biman Bangladesh direct flight on Dhaka-Narita sector to commence from September 2023.



The Hon'ble Prime Minister attended a grand reception organized by the Embassy in cooperation with the expatriate Bangladeshis living in Japan

Media Coverage

On the occasion of the VVIP visit, Honorable Prime Minister was interviewed by the Japanese NHK on Thursday, 27 April 2023 and by Nikkei CNBC Japan Inc. on Friday, 28 April 2023 organized at the Akasaka Palace, Tokyo. Besides, on the occasion of the VVIP visit, the Embassy arranged to publish a special supplementary in the renowned 'The Japan Times' on Tuesday, 25 April 2023 at the advent of the visit. The special supplement contained articles of the Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, H.E. the Ambassador as well as the Chairman of Japan-Bangladesh Committee for Commercial and Economic Cooperation (JBCCEC). This VVIP visit of the Honorable Prime Minister has been widely covered by the Japanese media.

Governor of JBIC met Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed



A delegation of Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), led by Governor, Mr. Hayashi Nobumitsu paid a courtesy visit to H. E Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed today on 4th April 2023. They discussed about JBIC's role in financing in important projects in Bangladesh. HE Ambassador thanked JBIC for positioning Bangladesh as part of their frontier markets, and supporting Japanese companies' business activities as a key area of focus and hoped that JBIC's engagement will further accelerate Japanese companies' businesses in Bangladesh. Mr. Syed Nasir Ershad, Economic Minister and Dr. Ariful Haque, Minister (Commerce) of the Embassy were present during the meeting.

Mr. Masashi Ogawa paid a courtesy visit to H.E Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed



Mr. Masashi Ogawa, former Japanese Ambassador to Nepal and a board member of Asia Africa Arab 55 (AAA55), the public-interest organization paid a courtesy visit to H.E Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed today on 6th April 2023. The AAA55, under the support of Japanese Government promotes Japanese companies' investments in Asian, African, and Arabic countries. AAA is interested to work with Bangladesh Embassy, H.E Ambassador expressed interest to collaborate with AAA55 and support Japanese companies' business in Bangladesh. Mr. Shah Asif Rahman, Minister & Deputy Chief of Mission and Dr. Ariful Haque, Minister (Commerce) were present during the meeting.

H.E Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed urged Japanese IT companies to invest in Bangladesh

H.E Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed urged Japanese IT companies to invest in Bangladesh and recruit Bangladeshi IT Professionals. He gave a welcome remark in a seminar titled 'Digital Bangladesh: Your IT Destination' at the Japan IT Week, Spring, 2023 held at the Tokyo Big Site in Japan on 5th April, 2023 Wednesday organized by Embassy of Bangladesh in Japan, in collaboration with Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), UNIDO ITPO Tokyo and Bangladesh Association of Software and Information Services (BASIS). Mr. Russell T. Ahmed, President of BASIS, Mr. Kazuhiko Obama, Senior Director, JETRO also gave remarks while Mr. Masahiro Horikawa, CEO of BJIT Inc. Mr. AKM Ahmedul Islam BABU, Chairman, BASIS Japan Desk, Dr. Ariful Haque, Minister (Commerce) of the Embassy delivered presentations on capability and strength of Bangladesh ICT sector and support services to Japanese companies by the embassy. A delegation of 27 members from 15 IT companies are

participating in the Japan IT Week, one of the major events in information technology in Asia, which is being held from 5-7 April, 2023. H.E Ambassador visited the Bangladesh pavilion where Bangladeshi companies are showcasing their services, these are; LeadSoft Bangladesh Limited, Nascenia, Brain Station 23, Kawaii Advanced Technology & Solution Limited, BJIT Limited, DreamOnline Limited, Attrabit ICT Solution, Edusoft Consultants Ltd, E-Tracker Solution, Deshlink Limited and XCEED Bangladesh Limited. Sky Tech Solutions Earth Next Technologies Ltd. LEVERnGEAR LIMITED, Ignite Tech Solutions. They will participate in various conferences, seminars, workshops and B2B meetings to expand business with different countries. In the evening of the same day, a Networking Event was organized by the Embassy at Tokyo Big Sight with the presence of Bangladeshi exhibitors, NRB businessmen, Japanese businessmen and Embassy officials.



Participants of the Seminar

H.E Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed urged Japanese companies to source more “Made in Bangladesh” quality products.

H.E Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed urged Japanese companies to source more “Made in Bangladesh” quality products at a Seminar titled “Sustainable Factory and Prospects of ‘Made in Bangladesh’ Products in Japan” held on 6th April, 2023 at Tokyo Big Sight. The seminar was jointly

organized by Embassy of Bangladesh in Japan and RX Japan Ltd., in collaboration with Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), UNIDO ITPO Tokyo and Japan Textile Importers Association (JTIA). Mr. Katsuhiko Murayama, Director, Southwest Asia Office, Trade Policy Bureau, Ministry of

Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), Japan and Mr. Yoshiaki Kamiyama, Senior Researcher, JTIA gave remarks and highlighted Bangladesh's economic progress and potentials. Mr. Kiminobu Hiraishi, President, Maruhisa Co. Ltd. shared business experiences in Bangladesh while Dr. Ariful Haque, Minister (Commerce) of the Embassy highlighted sustainable factory in Bangladesh and opportunities for Japanese companies as well as support services to Japanese companies by the embassy. Around 100 participants attended the seminar. Fashion World Tokyo (FaW), Spring, 2023 held from April 5- 7 at the Tokyo Big Sight, Japan, is the largest trade show for the fashion industry in Japan gathering all kinds of fashion wear, apparel, bag, shoes, textile, leather, fashion accessory and fashion sourcing from

all over the world, with around 600 exhibitors. Under the market development initiative of the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB), Ministry of Commerce, Bangladesh, 17 (seventeen) reputed exporters belonging to the apparel industry as well as leather goods are participated in this fair. H.E Ambassador along with other Embassy Officials visited Bangladeshi booths as well as NRB exhibitors. In the evening of the 1st day on 5th April, Embassy of Bangladesh, Tokyo organized Networking Event at Conference Tower of Tokyo Big Sight with the participation of Bangladeshi exhibitors at Fashion World Tokyo along with exhibitors at Japan IT Week, Japanese companies, NRB Exhibitors and invited guests from Japanese entities.



Fashion World Tokyo (FaW), Spring, 2023

H.E Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed attended this year's Tokyo Boishakhi Mela.

H.E Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed, the Ambassador of Bangladesh to Japan, accompanied by the officers of the Embassy, attended this year's Tokyo Boishakhi Mela, the largest Bangladesh community gathering in Japan on 30 April 2023. The Ambassador graced the program as Chief Guest. H.E Mr. IWAMA Kiminori, the Ambassador of Japan to Bangladesh attended the program as Special Guest. Mr. Shoichi Koike, representative of Toshima-ku Mayor Office, Mr. Masato Watanabe, President of Nihon Bangladesh Kyokai and Dr. Osamu Otsubo, Chairman of Japan Bangladesh Society also attended the colorful program. The program was widely attended by the cross-section of community members.



H.E Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed delivered speech in the Mela



A segment of the participants

The Embassy hosted an event launching the Manga Style biopic "Father of the Nation Bangabandhu."

The Embassy hosted an event launching the Manga Style biopic "Father of the Nation Bangabandhu" at the Bangabandhu auditorium on 30 April 2023. The book, first of a proposed five book series, has been published by Scholars Bangladesh Society and SHINE Partners Co. (Japan) in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh. Ambassador of Bangladesh to Japan, H.E. Shahabuddin Ahmed and Ambassador of

Japan to Bangladesh, H.E. IWAMA Kiminori were present and delivered their remarks in front of a select group of audience. Mentionable that the book was handed over to the Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on 28 April 2023 during her recent visit to Japan. Earlier, the book was launched in Dhaka by the Hon'ble Foreign Minister on 05 April 2023. The book is available as a package in Bangla, Japanese and English languages.



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