

Newsletter

October 2023



Embassy of Bangladesh Tokyo, Japan



Bangladesh Baseball team met Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed

Players of Bangladesh Baseball team headed by Coach Hiroki Watanabe met Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed at the Embassy on 04 October 2023.



Players of Bangladesh Baseball team with Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed and officials of Bangladesh embassy

The delegation gave update on the promising rise of Baseball as a team game in Bangladesh. Ambassador encouraged the players to learn as much as they can from Japan, a leading country in Baseball, as the game also holds prospect for Bangladesh to make a mark at the international stage.

Deputy Chief of Mission Shah Asif Rahman and Counsellor Muhammed Bashir were also present at the meeting.

Seminar on “Trade, Investment and Human Resources” held in Tochigi, Japan

Bangladesh Embassy in Tokyo organized a Seminar on “Trade, Investment and Human Resources” today at the Hall Room of Tochigi Chamber of Commerce and Industry Building on 06 October 2023.

The seminar was co-organized by Tochigi Chamber of Commerce and Industry and supported by Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), Tochigi, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and UNIDO-ITPO Tokyo.

Nearly 100 participants from Japanese companies and manpower recruiting agencies were present at the event.



Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed is giving speech in a Seminar on “Trade, Investment and Human Resources” held in Tochigi

Bangladesh’s Ambassador to Japan Shahabuddin Ahmed, in his welcome speech, urged Japanese businessmen and investors to invest in various sectors such as garment industry, leather, jute, light engineering, information technology, as well as in Economic Zones, Hi-Tech Parks and Export Processing Zones in Bangladesh. He said, relation between Bangladesh and Japan has been elevated to ‘Strategic Partnership’ during Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina’s visit to Japan in April this year and it has created and augmented opportunities for cooperation and collaboration with Japan in many areas including trade, investment, and recruitment of human resources from Bangladesh.

In the context of the decreasing population in Japan, the Ambassador urged Japan’s manpower recruiting agencies to recruit workers from Bangladesh.

The other speakers include Kenichi Aragane, Chairman of Tochigi Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Masaaki Mashiyama, Vice Mayor of Tochigi City and Shinsuke Nagai, Senior Director, South Asia Department, JICA.

Kaoru Terashima from JETRO Research & Analysis Department explained business environment in Bangladesh and prospects

of Japanese companies in doing business in Bangladesh. Daisuke Kobori, Director, Marusan Sangyo Co., Ltd. and Yasuo Mega, president, Gakubun Group Co., Ltd. shared their business experiences in Bangladesh and expressed their interest in recruiting more Bangladeshi workers in their respective companies.

Dr. Ariful Haque, Minister (Commerce) of the Embassy highlighted trade and investment opportunities in Bangladesh as well as support services by the Embassy to Japanese investors.

Md. Zoynal Abedin, First Secretary (Labour), of the Bangladesh Embassy gave a presentation on “Human Resources of Bangladesh-How it can benefit both Japan and Bangladesh”.

Officials and representatives from Bangladesh Embassy and Japanese entities were also present at the Seminar.



Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed and embassy officials with the delegation of Tochigi Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Before the start of the seminar, a delegation of Tochigi Chamber of Commerce and Industry led by Tochigi Chamber Chairman Kenichi Aragane and Tochigi City Vice Mayor Masaaki Mashiyama paid a courtesy call on Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed.

During the meeting, the ambassador urged the businessmen of Tochigi to come forward to invest in and import manpower from Bangladesh.

Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed inaugurated Bangladesh Pavilion at the Fashion World Tokyo

Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed inaugurated Bangladesh Pavilion at Fashion World Tokyo (FaW) on 10 October 2023 at the Tokyo Big Sight, Japan.

This 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, 20 (twenty) reputed exporters belonging to the apparel industry as well as leather goods are participating in this fair.

RX Japan Limited, one of the world's reputed event organizers, is organizing the event.



Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed inaugurated Bangladesh Pavilion at the Fashion World Tokyo 2023

Ambassador along with other Embassy Officials visited Bangladeshi booths while Dr. Ariful Haque, Minister (Commerce) of the Embassy accompanied and introduced Bangladeshi companies as well as NRB exhibitors.

On the 2nd day of the Fashion World Tokyo on 11th October 2023, the Embassy of Bangladesh, Tokyo organized a networking dinner reception at Washington Bay Hotel with the participation of the exhibitors, Japanese companies, entities and Embassy officials.

Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed delivered the welcome speech and urged Japanese companies to source more “Made in Bangladesh” quality products from Bangladesh.



Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed is giving speech in a seminar titled ‘Made in Bangladesh’

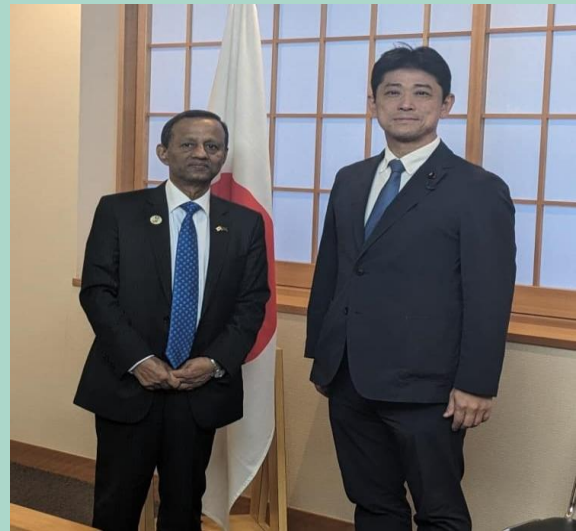
Mayumi Murayama, Executive Vice President of Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) was the special guest. She praised Bangladesh’s economic success over the years and assured to continue JETRO’s support for strengthening Bangladesh-Japan trade relation.

The Embassy also organized a seminar on ‘Made in Bangladesh’ Textile, Leather, and Jute products at Tokyo Big Sight on the same day. Kiminobu Hiraishi, President, Maruhisa Co. Ltd., and Mr. Toshinao Okunaka, President, Marutomi Co. Ltd., delivered presentations on their business experiences in Bangladesh while Dr. Ariful Haque, Minister (Commerce) of the Embassy highlighted on the sustainable factories in Bangladesh and opportunities for Japanese companies.

Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed met Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan KOMURA Masahiro

Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed made a courtesy call on Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan KOMURA Masahiro on 17 October 2023 at the Foreign Ministry of Japan.

Ambassador Ahmed congratulated. KOMURA Masahiro on his recent appointment as the Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs looking after Bangladesh. He thanked him for visiting Dhaka recently to attend the inauguration of the Third Terminal of Hazrat ShahJalal International Airport built with Japanese assistance.



Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed made a courtesy call on Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan KOMURA Masahiro

Ambassador expressed his full commitment and desire to work towards implementing the Joint Statement on “Strategic Partnership” as well as the Agreements and MoUs signed during the visit of the Hon’ble Prime Minister to Japan in April this year. The two sides also discussed various issues of mutual interest.

Ambassador Ahmed was assisted by Sheikh Farid, Minister (Political) & HOC and Muhammed Bashir, Counsellor (Political) from the Embassy side.

Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed met State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan HORII Iwao

Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed made a courtesy call on State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan HORII Iwao at the Foreign Ministry of Japan on 18 October 2023.

Ambassador Ahmed congratulated State Minister HORII Iwao on his recent

appointment after the 2nd Cabinet reshuffle by Prime Minister Fumio Kishida last month. Immediately after that the State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh sent a congratulatory letter to his new Japanese counterparts.

State Minister HORII recalled his visit to Bangladesh in 2017 as the then Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, during which he held meetings with the State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh and other high officials. He thanked him for the warm hospitality extended to him during that visit.

Ambassador Ahmed hoped that he would again visit Bangladesh at a mutually convenient time.



Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed made a courtesy call on State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan HORII Iwao

Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed recalled Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's official visit to Japan in 1973, that began on this date, 18 October. He mentioned that warm hospitality was extended to Bangabandhu by Japanese leadership.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was also accorded red carpet reception during her

just concluded official visit to Japan in April 2023 where both the countries elevated their bilateral relations to a Strategic Partnership.

Ambassador Ahmed thanked the Foreign Ministry and the government of Japan for the assistance provided to Bangladesh by Japan since independence. He expressed his full commitment and desire to work towards implementing the Joint Statement in words and spirit.

Shah Asif Rahman, Deputy Chief of Mission and Muhammed Bashir, Counsellor (Political) attended the meeting from the Embassy side.

Sheikh Russel Day 2023 celebrated in Japan

Bangladesh Embassy in Tokyo organized a day-long program at the Embassy premises on the occasion of the 59th birth anniversary of Sheikh Russel, the youngest son of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and 'Sheikh Russel Day 2023', including a discussion meeting and special prayer Tokyo on 18 October 2023



Ambassador of Bangladesh to Japan, Shahabuddin Ahmed and embassy officials laid floral wreaths on the portrait of Sheikh Russel

The invited guests including Japanese dignitaries, Bangladeshi expatriates in Japan and the Embassy officials led by Ambassador of Bangladesh to Japan, Shahabuddin Ahmed, laid floral wreaths on the portrait of Sheikh Russel.



Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed and Japanese guests laid floral wreaths on the portrait of Sheikh Russel

A special prayer was also offered for the salvation of the departed souls of Bangabandhu and his martyred family members.

After that the messages of the President and Prime Minister on Sheikh Russel Day was read out.

During the discussion session, Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmad discussed various aspects of Shaheed Sheikh Russel's short life. He said, since childhood, Sheikh Russel was polite and very well-mannered in behavior. Despite his father being the Prime Minister of the country, Sheikh Russel lived a very simple life like other members of his family. The Ambassador recalled the visit of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to Japan in 1973 and said that the day Bangabandhu stepped foot on Japanese soil as the first Prime Minister of independent Bangladesh was on October 18, 1973, that was Sheikh Russel's birthday. Russel also came to Japan with his father that day. In a video of Bangabandhu's visit to Japan, Sheikh Russel was seen very lively and smiling. He enjoyed watching fishes by the pond and was also seen enjoying Japanese dance and music wearing traditional Japanese clothes - 'Yukatta'.

Ambassador Shahabuddin said that on August 15, 1975, with the other members of his family, Sheikh Russel became victim of the most brutal massacre in human history.



Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed delivering speech on Sheikh Russel Day 2023

perpetrated by a group of killers with the direct and indirect connivance of anti-liberation forces from home and abroad. That day we lost all the world's love and compassion, humanity was exiled and stunned. He said that there have been political assassinations and military coups in many countries in the history of the world to seize power or to achieve political goals. But the way Bangabandhu was killed along with his entire family, including his wife and infant son Russel, is rare in world history. Therefore, this brutal killing is a burning example of gross violation of child rights and human rights.

A significant number of Japanese dignitaries, JOCV volunteers, Representatives from Japanese NGO and media houses, human rights activists and members of the expatriate Bangladeshi community were present at the event. Renowned Human Rights Activists and member of UN Child Rights Committee (CRC) Dr. Mikiko Otani of Japan sent a special message on Sheikh Russel Day. In her message, Dr. Otani said, the tragedy of Sheikh Russel reminds us of our collective duty to protect children from all forms of violence. The violence Sheikh Russel experienced took an extreme form – killing him at the age of ten, with his parents and family members. Former Japanese Ambassador to Bangladesh and president of The Japan-Bangladesh Society Masato Watanabe also took part in the discussion. Ambassador Watanabe in his speech

recalled his visit to Bangabandhu Memorial Museum at Dhanmandi 32 and pays profound respect to the memory of Bangabandhu and his family members martyred on 15 August 1975.



Former Japanese Ambassador to Bangladesh and president of The Japan-Bangladesh Society Masato Watanabe delivering his speech on Sheikh Russel Day

The invited guests from various Japanese organizations and members of the Bangladeshi community living in Japan participated in the discussion session. They paid their respect to Sheikh Russel's memory and thanked the Embassy for organizing the event. Later a documentary on the life of Sheikh Russel was screened.

Later in the evening, a wonderful cultural program was organized in the presence of children and the parents. Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed cut the cake with the guests and children on that occasion .

Young Diplomats to participate in 8-month long Japanese-Language Program in Kansai

Young Diplomats from 34 countries are participating in an 8-month long Japanese-Language Program for Foreign-Service Officers / Public Officials at the Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai. The language course is being funded by the Japan Foundation. Assistant Secretary, Mr. Siam Rahman from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bangladesh is attending this year's course.



Participants of Japanese-Language Program for Foreign-Service Officers / Public Officials of different countries

A welcome reception was organized on the evening of 19 October by the Foreign Ministry of Japan. Deputy Chief of Mission Shah Asif Rahman represented Bangladesh Embassy at the gathering.

Aomori Prefectural Assembly Member Naoharu Fukushi met Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed

Aomori Prefectural Assembly Member Naoharu Fukushi met Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed on 30 Oct 2023 at the embassy.



Aomori Prefectural Assembly Member Naoharu Fukushi met Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed

They discussed various issues including how to further promote business, trade, investment and human resource between the Aomori prefecture and Bangladesh.

Naoharu Fukushi also proposed to hold seminars to enhance cooperation between institutions of the two countries. The Ambassador welcomed his proposals and pledged the support of the Embassy as and when necessary.



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