

Newsletter

Bangladesh Embassy Tokyo

May 2023

Hon'ble Speaker of Bangladesh Parliament visits Japan.

A Bangladesh Parliamentary delegation headed by Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, MP, Hon'ble Speaker of the Parliament of the People's Republic of Bangladesh visited Japan during the period 24-29 May 2023 at the invitation of Mr. HOSODA Hiroyuki, Hon'ble Speaker of the House of Representatives. Other delegation members included Hon'ble Members of Parliament Mr. Ruhul Haque, Mr. Abul Kalam Md Ahsanul Haque Chowdhury, Mr. Badruddoza Md Farhad Hossain, Ms. Khadijatul Anwar and Ms. Kaniz Fatema Ahmed. Hon'ble

Speaker was accompanied by her husband, Mr. Syed Ishtiaque Hossain and son, Mr. Syed Ibtisham Rafiq Hossain. Besides, Additional Secretary of the Jatiya Sangsad, Secretariat Md Nuruzzaman; Private Secretary to the Speaker, MA Kamal Billah; Director (Mass Communication) of the Jatiya Sangsad, Secretariat, Md Tariq Mahmud and Assistant Private Secretary to the Speaker Md Rashed Iqbal Chowdhury also visited with the delegation of Hon'ble Speaker.

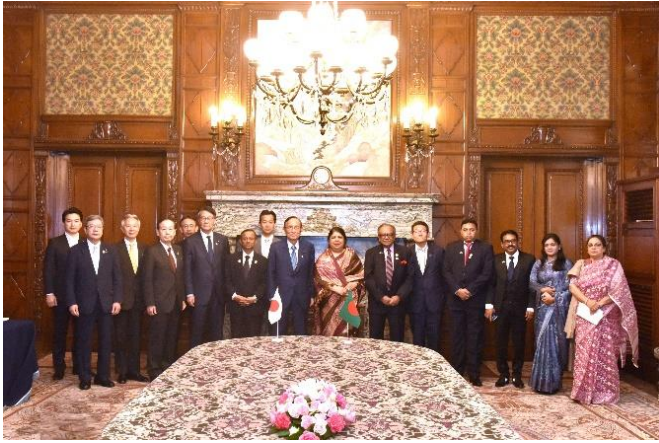


Bangladesh Parliamentary delegation attended a dinner hosted by H.E the Ambassador



Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, MP, Hon'ble Speaker and her delegation members arrived at Narita Airport on 24 May 2023. H.E Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed and his spouse Mrs. Shahina Akhter received her at the airport. The delegation attended a dinner hosted by H.E the Ambassador at Bangladesh house at the evening. Hon'ble Speaker HOSODA Hiroyuki, House of Representatives of Japan along with some senior officers of the Secretariate of the House of Representative also attended the dinner. It was informed that Japan's Diet invites foreign Speakers as per rotational system and last time Bangladesh was invited in such a programme 30 years back. During

this visit, Hon'ble Speaker and her delegation attended a bilateral meeting with Mr. HOSODA Hiroyuki, Speaker of the House of Representatives on 25th May 2023 at the conference room of the National Diet of Japan. Mr. KAIEDA Banri, Vice-Speaker, Mr. YAMAGUCHI Shunichi, Chair of the Standing Committee on Rules and Administration, Mr. MORIYAMA Masahito, Mr. RYU Hirofumi and Mr. OKAMOTO Mitsunari, Directors of the Committee; and Mr. NAKATSUKA Hiroshi, Mr. ASANO Satoshi and Mr. SHIOKAWA Tetsuya, Members of the Committee were present at the meeting. Speaker Hosoda welcomed the delegation to Japan.



Hon'ble Speakers of Bangladesh and Japan inside the National Diet



He then offered sympathies to the people of Bangladesh who were affected by the recent cyclone and prayed for the swift recovery of the devastated areas. Mr. Hosoda also expressed hope that the two countries would further deepen their relationship following Speaker Chaudhury's visit to Japan and last year's 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations. Hon'ble Speaker Chaudhury responded by offering her appreciation for the invitation. She also stated that the two nations have maintained a strong relationship since Japan recognized Bangladesh as a sovereign state in 1972. She expressed gratitude for support from Japan in various areas, adding that she would like to see their bilateral relations elevated to an even higher level. They also discussed the impact of natural disasters on their countries, exchanged views on economic and trade relations, technological development in the field of information and communication technology to the benefit of the two peoples. After the meeting, the delegation was taken to observe the Plenary Sitting of National Diet where Japanese Speaker Hosoda introduced Bangladesh Speaker Chaudhury before the parliament. All the parliament

members welcomed her with applause. The delegation also met with Mr. Otsuji, Hon'ble President of House of Councilors on the same day. During the meeting, the Hon'ble speaker said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, poverty alleviation, women's empowerment, implementation of social safety net programs, 100% electrification, allowance of lactating mothers, implementation of one house and one farm project etc. have been successfully completed in Bangladesh. Japan has a leading role in the development of Bangladesh. Japan can invest more in the economic zones of Bangladesh. Both countries can work together on gender discrimination, climate change etc. Meanwhile, the speaker emphasized strengthening the parliamentary relations between the two countries. Praising Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chowdhury as the first female speaker, President Hidehisa Otsuji said that Bangladesh has set a bright example in empowering women. The friendly relations between the two countries have been further strengthened by the recent visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to Japan.



Meeting with Mr. Otsuji, Hon'ble President of House of Councillors



Later, President of Japan-Bangladesh Parliamentary Friendship League, Mr. Aso Taro met the Hon'ble Speaker at Hotel Capitol in Tokyo. During the meeting, Speaker Chaudhury said that Japan has been helping Bangladesh in the fields of infrastructural development, poverty alleviation, water management, sanitation, construction and renovation of roads, etc. since the Great War of Liberation. Japan is currently Bangladesh's single largest development partner. Japan has helped Bangladesh by providing vaccines during the Covid-19 pandemic. Along with achieving poverty alleviation, women's empowerment, etc., economic and political stability prevails in Bangladesh due to the singular efforts of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. Bangladesh is now going through a demographic dividend with a highly skilled young

population. He wished Japan to invest more in the information technology sector to exploit their immense potential.

The delegation also attended a luncheon hosted by Japan-Bangladesh Parliamentary Friendship League of and dinner hosted by Hon'ble Speaker Mr. Hosoda at his official residence. The delegation visited the National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation in Japan on 26 May 2023. The delegation also visited Osaka. H.E Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed attended all the event as part of the delegation member of the Hon'ble Speaker. The Hon'ble Speaker departed Tokyo on 29 May 2023 and was seen off by H.E Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed, his spouse Mrs. Shahina Akhter and Minister (Political) & HOC Mr. Sheikh Farid at the airport.

H.E. Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Japan inaugurated a colorful kite festival at Saitama, Japan

H.E. Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Japan inaugurated a colorful kite festival on 04 May 2023, at the Ōmiya Daisan park of Saitama, Japan organized by the Bangladeshi expatriates from old Dhaka. A large number of Bangladeshi expatriates living around Tokyo and Saitama attended the event. The Ambassador was accompanied by his spouse Mrs. Shahina Akhter and Minister (Political) & HOC Mr. Sheikh Farid. The centuries-old tradition of kite flying festival- known as '*Shakraim*,' is followed by millions of people in Bangladesh. Especially residents of the old parts of the capital Dhaka who have been celebrating it every

year with fanfare over generations. Following the ease of pandemic restrictions, this event is being observed in Japan for the last couple of years following the tradition. In the inaugural speech, H.E. Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Japan thanked the organizer and said kite festival is an environment friendly means of recreation. People from all walks of life- irrespective of age, rich or poor, and ideology- get immense pleasure by participating in such a colourful festival and enhancing their social bonding. He said the Embassy will always cooperate and assist in organizing such events in future.



H.E. Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Japan inaugurated kite festival

Bangladesh Embassy, Tokyo organized a seminar on "The Activities and Prospects of Bangladesh Human Resources."

The Embassy of Bangladesh, Tokyo jointly organized a seminar on "The Activities and Prospects of Bangladesh Human Resources" on 08 May 2023 at a local hotel in the western prefecture of Ishikawa. Deputy Chief of Mission, Shah Asif Rahman presented on the prevailing human resources potential in Bangladesh. Counsellor Muhammed Bashir also attended the event. More than 100 Japanese companies and their representatives attended the event. On behalf of the Embassy, Mr. Rahman urged them to take timely and positive decision to recruit Bangladeshi human resources in their companies. He assured us that the Embassy was always ready to provide all out support and cooperation in this regard. The Governor of Ishikawa, H.E. Mr. Hiroshi Hase attended the event in spite of busy time tackling the earthquake crisis. He thanked Bangladesh Embassy for the seminar and welcomed the guests. H.E. Mr. Gen Nakatani, Special Adviser to

the Prime Minister of Japan on International Human Rights presented valuable experience of his recent visit to Bangladesh this February (2023) when he attended a seminar organized by ILO-JETRO. He informed the audience that during the visit, he also visited a local factory which supplies Fast Retailing (UNIQLO). He commented positively on the improving labour and working conditions in Bangladesh especially in RMG sector. The other speakers were Mr. Hideaki Domichi, former Japanese Ambassador to India and former Senior Vice President of JICA and Mr. Tsutomu Nakagawa, Assistant Vice Minister, Immigration Services Agency, Ministry of Justice. The event is part of the ongoing activities by the Embassy to find new job market inside Japan to provide human resources as required. The event served as an excellent platform to share information on Bangladesh's potential with the local stakeholders.



Deputy Chief of Mission, Shah Asif Rahman made a presentation at the seminar



H.E. Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed paid a courtesy call on Mr. HOSODA Hiroyuki, the Hon'ble Speaker, House of Representatives of Japan

H.E. Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed paid a courtesy call on the Hon'ble Speaker, Mr. HOSODA Hiroyuki, on 12 May 2023. The meeting took place in the backdrop of the very fruitful bilateral official visit of the Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to Japan on 25-28 April 2023 during which the two countries

had elevated their friendly relations to a 'Strategic Partnership'. The Ambassador discussed areas of future cooperation between the two parliaments as well as ways to increase people-to-people exchange.



H.E. Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed paid a courtesy call on the Hon'ble Speaker HOSODA Hiroyuki, House of Representatives of Japan



The Ambassador informed the Hon'ble Speaker HOSODA that the Bangladesh Biman would resume direct flights between Dhaka and Narita. Following the ease of pandemic, it will provide more opportunities for technical person, tourists and businessmen of the two countries to visit each other on regular basis. It may be mentioned that at the invitation of the Speaker of the House of Representatives the Hon'ble Speaker of Bangladesh National Parliament, Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury,

MP later visited Japan on 24-29 May 2023. Director General Mr. YAMAMOTO Hironori and Director Ms. SHIKATA Akiko from the International Affairs Department, Foreign Affairs Division, The National Diet of Japan were present at the meeting. From the Embassy side, The Ambassador was accompanied by the Deputy Chief of Mission, Mr. Shah Asif Rahman; Economic Minister, Mr. Syed Nasir Ershad; Minister and Head of Chancery, Mr. Sheikh Farid and Counsellor, Mr. Muhammed Bashir.

Bangabandhu Foundation organized a seminar on 'Bangabandhu, Bangladesh and Sheikh Hasina' in Tokyo

Bangabandhu Foundation organized a seminar on 'Bangabandhu, Bangladesh and Sheikh Hasina' in Tokyo on 14 May 2023. Chief Guest of the event was Alhaz Nazrul Islam Babu, Hon'ble MP from Araihasar (Narayanganj-2). H.E. Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed attended the event as Special Guest. Deputy Chief of Mission, Shah Asif Rahman also attended the event. It may be mentioned that as part of their effort

to spread the legacy and ideology of life and struggle of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the Bangabandhu Foundation has been organizing seminars in various countries. Advocate Dr. Moshir Malek, Founder and Executive President, Bangabandhu Foundation and few other members visited Tokyo in this connection.



Bangabandhu Foundation organized a seminar in Tokyo



Hon'ble Security Adviser to the Prime Minister attends the Munich Leaders Meeting held in Tokyo

The Mission facilitated the participation of the Hon'ble Security Adviser to the Prime Minister, Major General Tarique Ahmed Siddique, rcds, psc (retired) at the Munich Leaders Meeting 2023 held on 14 -16 May 2023 at the Happo-En, Tokyo. Deputy Chief of Mission, Shah Asif Rahman and Defense Attache' of Bangladesh accredited to Japan (resident in Seoul),

Air Commodore AFM Shamimul Islam were part of the delegation. Apart from the official programme, the Hon'ble Adviser also attended a dinner hosted by the Foreign Minister of Japan for the invited dignitaries.

The Embassy of Bangladesh participated at the 2023 International Exchange Fair in Tokyo

The Embassy of Bangladesh participated at the 2023 International Exchange Fair on Saturday, 20 May 2023 hosted by the Chiyoda city government. As

many as twelve Embassies and diplomatic missions located within Chiyoda city joined this daylong event.



The Embassy of Bangladesh participated at the 2023 International Exchange Fair in Tokyo



In his opening remarks, Mayor of Chiyoda city Mr. Takaaki Higuchi welcomed everyone and thanked the embassies and diplomatic missions for their cooperation. Each country displayed traditional handicrafts, costumes, food, drink and other products in their respective booths. The program also consisted of traditional songs, music, dance and other performances. Bangladesh booth attracted a lot of audience with its colorful traditional handicrafts like nakshikatha, various artifacts, and other products. In our allotted segment, the Bangladesh team

comprising expatriate youths offered a stunning show of music, songs and dance. They received a lot of cheering and praise from the audience. On behalf of the Embassy, Economic Minister Syed Nasir Ershad attended the opening session along with the Mayor and other Ambassadors/diplomats, and then visited various booths together as well as enjoyed the cultural program. From our Embassy, Counsellor (Political) Mr. Muhammed Bashir and First Secretary (Labour) Mr. Md. Zoynal Abedin also attended the event.

Hon'ble Health Minister, H. E. Mr. Zahid Maleque, visited Nagasaki, Japan to attend "Japan Health Systems Flagship Course" program

H. E. Mr. Zahid Maleque, MP, Hon'ble Health Minister, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare visited Nagasaki,

Japan to attend 'Japan Health Systems Flagship Course' program from 14-19 May 2023. The

Bangladesh delegation composed of Mr. Azizur Rahman, Secretary, Medical Education and Family Welfare Division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; Mr. Abul Bashar Mohammad Khurshid Alam, Director General, Directorate General of Health Services; and Mr. Md Reazul Hoque, Deputy

Secretary (Private Secretary to the Minister), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The Embassy facilitated the participation of the Hon'ble Minister and Counsellor (Political) Mr. Muhammed Bashir visited Nagasaki to attend the event.

Embassy of Bangladesh, Tokyo, UNIDO ITPO Tokyo and Fukuoka Chamber of Commerce and Industry jointly organized a Business Seminar and Networking Event

Embassy of Bangladesh, Tokyo, UNIDO ITPO Tokyo and Fukuoka Chamber of Commerce and Industry jointly organized a Business Seminar and Networking Event at Hakata City Centre, Fukuoka on 22 May 2023. Mr. Ariful Hoque, Director, Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA), delivered presentation on investment opportunities in

Bangladesh while business experiences in Bangladesh was shared by a Japanese company. Dr. Ariful Haque, Minister (Commerce) of the Embassy, highlighted support services provided by the Embassy to the Japanese investors. The program was moderated by Ms. Ikue Toshinaga of UNIDO ITPO Tokyo.



Embassy of Bangladesh, Tokyo, organized a Business Seminar and Networking Event

The Embassy of Bangladesh, Tokyo organized at a Networking Event on “Promoting Bangladesh- Japan Business Opportunities.”

The Embassy of Bangladesh, Tokyo organized at a Networking Event on “Promoting Bangladesh- Japan Business Opportunities” on 26 May 2023 at the Bangabandhu Auditorium of the Embassy. H.E. Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed gave welcome remarks and urged Bangladeshi companies to take opportunities for business collaboration with Japanese companies complying with their business culture, ethics and standard. He also requested Japanese companies to invest in Bangladesh and do business with Bangladeshi companies taking Bangladesh’s investment-friendly policies and incentives. The event was organized in collaboration with the Investment and Technology Promotion Office Tokyo of the United Nations Industrial

Development Organization (UNIDO). Matchable Japanese companies and NRB businessmen were invited to the event to provide networking opportunities to 14 Bangladeshi companies that were visiting Japan. These companies are from various sectors like engineering, construction, logistics, shipping, SEZ management, ICT Park, real estate and hospitality, and health and beauty. Mr. Ariful Hoque, Director of Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA), Ms Ikue Toshinaga of UNIDO ITPO Tokyo, M Jalalul Hai, JBCCI Vice President spoke at the event. The program was moderated by Dr. Ariful Haque, Minister (Commerce) of the Embassy. During the interactive discussion session, representatives from Japanese companies

and NRB Businessmen shared practical suggestions in response to the queries by the delegates from the visiting Bangladeshi companies. This is to note, the 14 Bangladeshi companies who were visiting Japan, attended business-to-business (B2B) events & Seminars held in three cities, Fukuoka, Osaka and

Tokyo from 22- 25 May 2023 with enthusiastic responses from Japanese companies. These B2B events were organized by UNIDO ITPO Tokyo in collaboration with the Embassy of Bangladesh, Tokyo and other entities.



The Embassy of Bangladesh, Tokyo organized at a Networking Event on “Promoting Bangladesh- Japan Business Opportunities.”

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