DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSION FOR
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
CHENNAI, INDIA

Press Release

Chennai, India, 17 March 2024

Celebration of the 104th Birth Anniversary of Bangabandhu in Chennai

Bangladesh Deputy High Commission, Chennai observed the *'104th Birth Anniversary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and National Children's Day-2024'* with due respect, solemnity, and fervour. Elaborate programs were organized at the Chancery premises and Vidya Sagar school to celebrate the day. Vidya Sagar School is a Not-for-Profit Community Based Organisation that endeavours to be a Centre of Excellence for children with special needs. The events included open discussion, display of science projects, cultural program by Vidya Sagar School students and distribution of gifts.

Deputy High Commissioner, Mr. Shelley Salehin inaugurated the Science Project Exhibition titled *"Sky Nomads: The Incredible Journey of Migratory Birds"* arranged by the students of Vidya Sagar School. The programme included a display of mesmerizing cultural show performed by the students of the school. The program concluded with cutting of a cake to celebrate the *'104th Birth Anniversary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman'* followed by refreshments.

Mrs. Poonam Natarajan, Founder and Director of the School in her welcome remarks, paid deep tribute to the memory of Bangabandhu and put some light on his immense contribution to the independence of Bangladesh. She showed her keen interest on sharing experiences with similar Bangladeshi institutions and concluded with the note that we must work together to make the world a better place for all children across the globe with a special focus to children with special needs.

'Children inspired by the life of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, has an important role in transforming Bangladesh into a – Sonar Bangla. Therefore, it is important to ensure a congenial environment so that all children can develop, grow, and contribute' Mr. Shelley Salehin said in his remarks. He also said that Bangabandhu always believed that for building a developed country (Golden Bengal), investments should be made on children. Outlining various initiatives undertaken by the present Government of Bangladesh under the able leadership of the Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, particularly for the betterment of the children, he reiterated the Government's resolution to work towards making a better world for all children.

A discussion was also held at the Mission premises. The Deputy High Commissioner paid deep homage to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman by placing floral wreath on his portrait. At the very beginning, messages issued by the Hon'ble President, Hon'ble Prime Minister and Hon'ble Foreign Minister on the eve of the *'104th Birth Anniversary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and National Children's Day-2024'* were read out followed by screening of a short documentary on the life of Bangabandhu and an open discussion. A special 'Dua' was performed for the salvation of the departed souls of Bangabandhu and His Family Members.

Bangladesh Deputy High Commission ★ Chennai, India ★

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