

Embassy of Bangladesh Mexico City

MARCH 2022

MONTHLY DIGITAL BULLETIN



National Martyrs' Monument, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Key Points:

- Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina addresses the 5th BIMSTEC Summit held in Colombo regarding post-COVID-19 challenges and impacts of the political crisis in the West.
- Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina put forward the following three-point suggestion for ensuring food security in the Asia-Pacific region.
- Sheikh Hasina gives speech to a high-level panel titled "Redefining the Future for Women," at the Women's Pavilion in the Dubai Expo-2020 on the occasion of the International Women's Day.
- Bangladesh is now ahead of India and Pakistan, among the South Asian countries in power generation.
- Bangladesh votes in favor of the UN's resolution demanding halt to 'Russia's war in Ukraine' on humanitarian grounds.
- Bangladesh has moved up seven notches in the happiness index.
- Bilateral relations with Thailand and Romania.
- Bangladesh Government is ensuring digital connectivity among the students.
- BIMSTEC Free Trade Area (FTA)
- A virtual business and investment platform connecting all 80 Bangladesh Missions powered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Monthly Bulletin March 2022



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, while virtually addressing the 5th BIMSTEC Summit held in Colombo, has urged the BIMSTEC leaders to join hands together as the forum is an appropriate tool that can leverage mutual benefits of member countries addressing post-COVID-19 challenges and impacts of the political crisis in the West. Her three-point proposals at the summit include urging all leaders for immediate implementation and operationalization of all agreed decisions like BIMSTEC FTA, BIMSTEC Centers and entities like Disaster Management Center, Energy Center, Cultural Commission, etc., connectivity projects, energy grid connectivity with a view to bringing immediate tangible benefits for peoples. Secondly, she stood for the completion of the process of all other legal instruments and policy documents that are already underway but not yet finalized by pushing the organization's momentum on a fast track. Finally, the PM suggested empowering the organization to engage in the creative and innovative processes by expanding its partnership and outreach with relevant entities outside of BIMSTEC with a view to addressing emerging threats and seizing new opportunities.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina put forward the following three-point suggestion for ensuring food security in the Asia-Pacific region while addressing as the chief guest in the virtual inaugural ceremony of the 36th Session of the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific



for Asia and the Pacific. Firstly, strengthening collaboration among countries in the field of agricultural research and education. Secondly, enhancing the transfer and sharing of cutting-

edge technologies like biotechnology, nanotechnology, and robotics in the agricultural sector among FAO member states in the region. Thirdly, create modern agriculture with huge investment including a special fund to finance and support the agriculture sector.'

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina while talking to a high-level panel titled "Redefining the Future for Women," at the Women's Pavilion in the Dubai Expo-2020 on the occasion of the International Women's Day, highlighted the initiatives of her government with regard to women empowerment in Bangladesh. It includes free education up to graduation level and, creates job opportunities for them in the higher posts like the judiciary, police, and other national spheres.



Bangladesh is now ahead of India and Pakistan, among the South Asian countries in power generation, according to data from the World Bank. The power generation capacity has rocketed to 25,514 MW in February 2022 from 4,942 MW in January 2009, of which, 1160 MW of electricity is being imported and 19,626 MW is being locally produced. In 2009, only 47 percent of the population had access to power. Per capita power generation has increased from 220 kWh to 560 kWh and distribution losses of electricity have been reduced by 5.85 percent.



Bangladesh voted in favor of the UN's resolution demanding halt to 'Russia's war in Ukraine' on humanitarian grounds.



The non-binding resolution, drafted by Ukraine and its allies was adopted at the UN headquarters in New York where 140 countries voted in favor, 38 abstained and five voted against the measure.

Bangladesh has moved up seven notches in the happiness index ahead of India, Pakistan, Myanmar, and Sri Lanka. Bangladesh has been ranked 94th among 146 nations, according to the UN-sponsored World Happiness Report 2022.



Bangladesh Foreign Minister said that it is a shame for Pakistan that they did not try it's the then military junta who committed genocide in 1971 during the War of Independence in Bangladesh. He hoped that the next generation of Pakistan would acknowledge the crime of 1971 and conduct a trial of the perpetrators of the genocide in Bangladesh. He said that Dhaka is continuing its efforts for achieving global recognition of 25 March as the 'Bangladesh Genocide Day'.



Bangladesh Foreign Minister urged the Asian nations to take the leadership role in addressing the emerging challenges and opportunities in the rapidly changing world during the roundtable 'Asia Anew: For sustainable regional growth' at the 2nd Antalya Diplomacy Forum. He elaborated on the policies of Bangladesh in addressing the socio-economic challenges including COVID-19, and climate change. Referring to the different current conflicts in the world, he flagged the concept of a culture of peace promoted by Bangladesh and emphasized that tolerance and empathy are essential for a world that is sustainable and habitable for future generations.

Bangladesh is placing emphasis on the implementation of the BIMSTEC Free Trade Area (FTA) which was signed in 2004 but still needs to go a long way



due to a lack of progress in the finalization and conclusion of six constituent legal instruments. Already two important documents such as the 'Constituent Agreement on Trade in Goods and the 'Text on BIMSTEC Rules of Origin' are at the final stage as these two documents are fundamental to starting the operation of FTA. BIMSTEC Transport Connectivity Master Plan is expected to be adopted during the upcoming 5th BIMSTEC Summit.

The World Bank is keen to work with Bangladesh in areas like energy security, energy efficiency, energy exchange, and policy reforms. It has also expressed its interest to modernize the gas pipeline network and install pre-paid gas meters in Bangladesh.



Bangladesh has requested Thailand to include Bangladesh in the Trilateral Highway project, being implemented by India, Myanmar, and Thailand.

Romania has expressed a keen interest to import skilled and unskilled municipal workers from Bangladesh.



Bangladesh Government is ensuring digital connectivity among the students across the country through its education system and also establishing 'Sheikh Kamal IT Training and Incubation Center' in all 64 districts in the country, as part of the 'Digital Bangladesh' program commenced in 2009, to create employment opportunity for almost one lac youths every year.



Bangladesh's Foreign Ministry is planning to establish a virtual business and investment platform connecting all 80 Bangladesh Missions





Embassy of Bangladesh, Mexico City March 2022 Monthly Digital Bulletin

abroad to expedite the government's efforts in increasing Foreign Direct Investment.

Bangladesh's government has made the "Joy Bangla (Victory of Bengal)" slogan a national slogan of Bangladesh underlining that it has an element of achieving everything including the country's independence.

Education Minister Dr. Dipu Moni urged administrators to focus on technical education to reduce the unemployment rate in Bangladesh. She said, the government has taken initiative to ensure practical education at secondary and higher secondary levels, and now, it's time to think about the university's curriculum.



Mission Activities March 2022

On March 7, 2022, Bangladesh Embassy in Mexico City commemorated the 'Historic 7th March' with due solemnity and unveiled the Spanish version of the Historic 7th March Speech of Bangabandhu, Father of the Nation of Bangladesh.



On March 17, 2022, Bangladesh Embassy in Mexico City celebrated 102nd Birth Anniversary of the Father of the Nation of Bangladesh & National Children's Day 2022 with the students of Colegio Ciudad de México with a presentation on



Bangabandhu & Bangladesh' & display of handicrafts 'Bangladesh Corner'

On March 25, 2022, Bangladesh Embassy in Mexico City observed National Genocide Day today to commemorate the brutalities committed by the Pakistani Army under 'Operation Searchlight' on the night of 25 March 1971 which killed thousands of innocent civilians during the #Bangladesh War of Liberation in 1971.



Bangladesh Embassy in Mexico City celebrated the 51st Anniversary of the National and Independence Day of Bangladesh, in collaboration with the Miguel Hidalgo Mayor's Office and the Bangladeshi community in Mexico, through a cultural and gastronomic exhibition to bring the country's culture closer to the residents of Mexico City.

The exposition was held Saturday March 26 and Sunday March 27, 2022, at the Nelson Mandela Cultural Space at Lincoln Park, Polanco Mexico City.





On March 31, 2022, Bangladesh Embassy in Mexico City organized a reception to celebrate the 51st Anniversary of the National and Independence Day of Bangladesh with Parliament members, Ambassadors, journalists, academics, local dignitaries, and members of the Bangladeshi community in Mexico.



Deputy Ms. Rosalinda Dominguez Flores, Member of the Mexican Chamber of Deputies and President, Mexico-Bangladesh Parliamentary Friendship Group graced the occasion as the Guest of Honour.



*Embassy of Bangladesh México City
Sierra Nevada 601, Lomas de Chapultepec
bdootmexico@gmail.com
mexico.mofa.gov.bd
+52 55 5540 4740*

