



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina urges foreign businessmen to invest in Bangladesh

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has called upon the foreign businessmen and entrepreneurs to choose Bangladesh for investment and sourcing as the country has turned into the best favourable destination for it.

The Prime Minister made this call while addressing as the chief guest the opening ceremony of the first-ever "Made in Bangladesh Week-2022" in city's Bangabandhu International Conference Center (BICC) in Dhaka on November 13.

Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) organised the weekend event to showcase the capability of the country's apparel sector before the world.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina also urged the country's businessmen to find out their foreign partners to utilise their technology and knowledge in the local industries.

Noting Bangladesh's investment-friendly policy, she said the duty-free quota-free (DFQF) access of Bangladeshi products to different foreign markets attracts world investors.

Source: <https://www.bssnews.net/news-flash>



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina opens 100 bridges, 100 industrial units



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on November 7 inaugurated 100 bridges in 25 districts for traffic in her government's efforts to establish direct road connectivity to further strengthen the country's economy.

"It is a historical event to open 100 bridges at a time. It will contribute to the country's socio-economic development," she said while virtually opening the bridges from her official Ganabhaban residence in the capital.

The bridges, constructed at a cost of over Tk 8,790 million, established direct road connectivity with the capital.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on November 20 inaugurated 50 industrial units, projects and facilities in economic zones (EZs) across Bangladesh.

She opened the industrial establishments in the EZs virtually from her official Ganabhaban residence to mark the golden jubilee of the country's independence and the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Source: <https://www.bssnews.net/news-flash>

PM confers "Friends of Liberation War Honour" posthumously on Edward M Kennedy Sr

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has conferred "Friends of Liberation War Honour" on late US Senator Edward M Kennedy Sr for his great contribution to Bangladesh's Liberation War.

The Prime Minister handed over "Friends of Liberation War Honour" conferred posthumously on Edward M Kennedy Sr to his able son Edward M Ted Kennedy Jr at a dinner hosted in honour of Ted Kennedy Jr and his family members in Dhaka on November 1.

The Premier said Kennedy Sr took bold stand against the genocide committed by Pakistan on innocent Bangladeshis.

He also said Kennedy Sr visited the refugee camp of Bangladesh in India's West Bengal in August 1971.

Source: <https://www.bssnews.net/news-flash>



Sajeeb Wazed hands over "Joy Bangla Youth Award"



Prime Minister's ICT Adviser and CRI Chairperson Sajeeb Wazed Joy handed over the "Joy Bangla Youth Award 2022" to winners in a ceremony at Sheikh Hasina National Institute of Youth Development at Savar in Dhaka on November 6.

In the sixth edition of the event, 10 youth organisations received the award under five categories. These 10 organisations were selected from over 600 applications.

Apart from the award, two persons were conferred with 'Lifetime Joy Bangla Youth Award' for their special contributions to the country.

Cartoonist and chief editor of "Mro" magazine Ahsan Habib and writer-researcher Youngquang Mro were conferred with the lifetime achievement award. Habib got the award in "Pathfinder" category while Mro in "Writing and Research" category.

The award is designed to recognise countrywide young change-makers, help them network among themselves and enhance the services, they are providing to their communities already.

Since its inception in November 2014, Young Bangla, the youth wing of Centre for Research and Information (CRI), has been conferring "Joy Bangla Youth Award" to the youths and youth organisations successfully involved in changing the social paradigm in their respective areas.

Source: <https://www.newagebd.net/article/186231/sajeeb-wazed-joy-hands-over-joy-bangla-youth-award-2022-to-10-winners>

Around 6500 become climate refugees in Bangladesh every year, Foreign Minister Momen at COP27

Foreign Minister Dr A K Abdul Momen has said that some 6500 people have been displaced every year due to climate change and most of them lose their jobs after facing difficulties in working and finally they flocked to the cities.

The Foreign Minister made the remarks while talking to reporters after participating in two events at the 2022 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27) in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt on November 14.

The Bangladesh government has taken steps to build houses for them in a bid to rehabilitate them every year, he added.

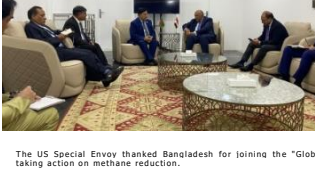
Earlier in the day, the Foreign Minister participated in two events titled 'Human Mobility in the Context of Climate Change: Building a Positive Narrative on Migration' and 'Climate Action and Global Shield against Climate Risks' at the conference.

He also said that 20% of Bangladesh will be flooded in the future and 2/3 crore people will be homeless and they will spread to the adjacent countries. "It will be a global security risk," he said. The Foreign Minister also stressed the need for collective action for this.

Source: <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/2022/11/14/momen-at-cop27-around-6500-become-climate-refugees-in-bangladesh-every-year>



Foreign Minister Abdul Momen thanks Egypt for including 'loss and damage' issue as COP27 agenda



Foreign Minister Dr A K Abdul Momen has thanked the Egyptian Presidency of the 22 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27) for having included the critical issue of "loss and damage" as part of the conference agenda.

He conveyed this during his meeting with Egyptian Foreign Minister and COP27 President Sameh Shoukry in Sharm El Sheikh on November 15.

The Bangladesh Foreign Minister hoped that the conference would be able to come up with a concrete deliverable on financing for loss and damage.

Foreign Minister Momen also met with the US President's Special Envoy on Climate Change John Kerry to discuss possible outcomes on loss and damage.

They had a combined meeting later with other representatives from V20 (Vulnerable Twenty Group of Finance Ministers) currently led by Ghana.

The US Special Envoy thanked Bangladesh for joining the "Global Methane Pledge" and referred to certain financing windows available for taking action on methane reduction.

Source: <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/2022/11/16/momen-hailed-for-including-loss-and-damage-in-cop27-agenda>

World leaders' engagement in COP27 ushers a new hope: Hasan Mahmud

Information and Broadcasting Minister Dr Hasan Mahmud has said the joining of world leaders' to the 2022 United Nations Climate Conference (COP27) ushered a new hope towards protecting the world from the adverse impact of climate change.

The Minister made the remarks as the representative of the Prime Minister at the COP27 in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt on November 8.

He highlighted different issues including the commitments of developed nations to protect the world from the adverse impact of climate change and the lack of progress in various fields including inter-country technical cooperation.

Dr Hasan said it is a matter of hope that the global leaders can hear the global community, environmentalists and the victims of climate change. As a result, a new momentum is transmitted to the global responsibility to deliver a global response and this is a good sign, he added.

Source: <https://www.bssnews.net/news-flash/92783>



Land Minister Saifuzzaman Chowdhury visits Bangladesh Embassy in Washington DC



Land Minister Saifuzzaman Chowdhury, MP, visited Bangladesh Embassy in Washington DC on November 25 and exchanged views with its officials.

Speaking on the occasion, the Land Minister asked the officials and employees of the Embassy to discharge their duty with more sincerity and integrity to serve the expatriate Bangladeshis alongside further improve the Bangladesh-US relations and cooperation.

Bangladesh Ambassador to the United States Muhammad Imran in his introductory remarks apprised the Minister of various activities of the Mission.

Earlier his arrival at the Chancery, Minister Saifuzzaman Chowdhury paid rich tributes to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman by placing a floral wreath at the bust of Bangabandhu. The Bangladesh Ambassador was present at that time.

Bangladesh urges for funding, equitable trade to ensure SDG implementation

Bangladesh has urged the world community to address the issue of funding for the successful implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), said State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md Shahrar Alam.

"Arranging necessary financing for infrastructure indeed has been identified as the single largest challenge in the successful implementation of the 2030 SDGs at the global level," he told a discussion on 'Sustainability Day 2022' organised by the UN Global Compact Network Bangladesh on November 23.

He said the momentum of implementing the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development has been affected by many interlinked challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change, Ukraine Crisis and so on.

State Minister Alam added issues like conflicts, inequality, intolerance, xenophobia, terrorism, forced displacements etc. are threatening to reverse the progress made by the countries in recent decades.



Source: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bd-urges-for-funding-equitable-trade-to-ensure-sdg-implementation-1669202956>

Pilgrims' immigration to be done in Dhaka, agreement signed



Bangladesh and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) on November 13 signed the 'Road to Makkah Service Agreement' which will ease visit of Bangladeshi Hajj pilgrims to the KSA.

"Under the 'Road to Makkah Service Agreement', Hajjis (Pilgrims) would be able to complete their immigration formalities in Dhaka airport prior to their departure for Saudi Arabia," Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal said after inking the agreement on behalf of Bangladesh.

Visiting Deputy Minister of Interior of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Dr Nasser bin Abdulaziz Al Dawood signed the deal on behalf of his country.

Apart from this, the two sides have also signed another agreement on Security Cooperation with the Saudi Arabian government to strengthen the existing security system.

Bangladesh Ambassador to USA Muhammad Imran exchanges views with journalists, Bangladeshi community leaders in New York

Bangladesh Ambassador to the United States Muhammad Imran exchanged views with journalists and leaders of Bangladeshi community at the Consulate General Office in New York on November 12.

Speaking as the chief guest, Ambassador Imran sought overall cooperation of the expatriate Bangladeshis irrespective of parties and opinions to further enhance the country's image abroad.

Noting that the expatriates are playing a pivotal role in country's development by sending remittances, he also urged them to project Bangladesh's tremendous socioeconomic progress before the foreigners that took place in the last 13 years under the dynamic and visionary leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

The Ambassador assured the expatriates of providing necessary cooperation from the government and Embassy to them, saying that the door of the Mission is always open to them.

While exchanging views with the journalists, Minister (Press) at Bangladesh Embassy in Washington DC AZM Sajjad Hossain, Consul General of Bangladesh Consulate in New York Dr Monirul Islam and First Secretary (Press) Md Noorelahi Mina also spoke.

Earlier, Ambassador Imran held a meeting with officials of the money exchange houses in New York and urged them to encourage the expatriates in sending remittances in legal channel alongside delivering hassle-free services.



Bangladesh Embassy in Washington DC celebrates Armed Forces Day



The Bangladesh Embassy in Washington DC hosted a reception on 21 November to celebrate the 51st Armed Forces Day.

Dr Tawfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury, BB, the Adviser to the Prime Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources, and Mr Gabe Camarillo, Under Secretary of US Army, were present at the function.

Bangladesh Ambassador to the USA Muhammad Imran also spoke at the event held at Bangabandhu Auditorium of the Embassy in the evening.

Lieutenant General Michael T. Plehn, President of National Defense University, USA, and Ms Afreen Akhter, US Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs, were also present at the event.

The program began with the playing of the national anthems of Bangladesh and the USA. Then a short documentary on the activities of the Bangladesh Armed Forces was screened.

Dr Tawfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury, in his speech, greeted the members of the armed forces on the occasion of the Armed Forces Day and recalled with profound respect great sacrifice and long struggle of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman who led the Bengali nation to achieve its long-cherished independence.

The Adviser also recalled with deep respect the bravery and supreme sacrifice of the valiant freedom fighters - both military and civilians in the Liberation War.

Dr Tawfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury, a gallantry award-recipient valiant Freedom Fighter, said along with safeguarding the independence and sovereignty of the country, the members of the armed forces have also earned global acclamation for maintaining peace and stability in different trouble-torn regions of the world.

He also said they are making huge contributions to Bangladesh's ongoing development under the visionary leadership of Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Under Secretary of US Army Gabe Camarillo said the USA and Bangladesh celebrated the 51st anniversary of Bangladesh Armed Forces and 50 years of friendly relations between the two countries.

Noting that Bangladesh is the world's largest troop contributors to the UN Peacekeeping Operation, he said the United States recognises the sacrifice of the Bangladesh Armed Forces both for defence of the country and maintaining peace and stability around the world.

Ambassador Imran paid deepest homage to the architect of Bangladesh, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman under whose leadership Bangladesh achieved final victory on December 16, 1971 following a nine-month-long armed Liberation War.

He noted with satisfaction the multifaceted cooperation between the armed forces of Bangladesh and the United States - in terms of UN peacekeeping operations, sharing of knowledge and experiences, training, procurement and exchange of visits, etc.

Diplomats and Defence Attaches from a number of countries, senior officials from the Pentagon, Department of State, and other US organizations, members of Bangladeshi diaspora and Embassy officials and employees attended the function.

Defence Attaché of Bangladesh Embassy Brigadier General Md Shahedul Islam welcomed the guests at the reception and thanked the USA for the support and cooperation extended that is mutual for the two countries. Minister (Political-1) Dewan Ali Ashraf conducted the program.

Bangladesh Embassy in Washington DC observes 'National Constitution Day'

The Bangladesh Embassy in Washington DC on November 4 observed 'National Constitution Day' in a befitting manner.

On this day in 1972, the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh was adopted by the Constituent Assembly of Bangladesh, and it came into effect on December 16 in the same year.

The Embassy arranged a program at the Bangabandhu Auditorium in the afternoon to commemorate the historic day.

The program began with placing of floral wreaths at the bust of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman by Bangladesh Ambassador to the United States Muhammad Imran. Officials and employees of the Embassy were present at that time.

Then the messages from the President and the Prime Minister were read out by Minister (Consular) Mohammad Habibur Rahman and Counsellor (Political-III) Shamima Yeasmin Smrite.

Later a discussion session was held highlighting the significance of the day.

During the discussion, Ambassador Muhammad Imran described 'National Constitution Day' as a historic day for the Bengali nation and highlighted its importance.

He paid tributes to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and said the greatest Bangalee of all time presented the long-awaited Constitution to the newly-independent nation within only 11 months of independence.

Ambassador Imran urged all to work unitedly under the leadership of honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to build a hunger-and-poverty-free developed and prosperous Bangladesh being imbued with the spirit of the great War of Liberation and the ideology of Bangabandhu.

Minister (Economic) Md. Mahadee Hassan also took part in the discussion, while Counsellor Mohammad Moniruzzaman conducted the program.



Bangladesh signs MoU with GCC on energy, food security cooperation



Bangladesh has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on partnership dialogue with Gulf Cooperation Countries (GCC).

This MoU with six oil rich Arab countries, opens Bangladesh's door of cooperation on various issues including energy, food security, tackling the impacts of climate change, trade and investment.

Foreign Minister Dr A K Abdul Momen and GCC Secretary General Nayem Falah M Al-Hajraf signed the MoU on the sidelines of the 'Manama Dialogue-2022' at Manama in Bahrain on November 18.

The members of the Riyadh-based alliance are Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates (UAE), Kuwait, Bahrain and Oman.

The Bangladesh government initiated a move to increase cooperation in different sectors with the GCC secretariat in Riyadh.

IMF reaches staff-level agreement with Bangladesh on \$ 4.5 billion loan

The Bangladesh authorities and the visiting International Monetary Fund (IMF) team have reached a staff-level agreement to support the authorities' reform policies under a new 42-month ECF/EFF arrangement of about US\$ 3.2 billion (SDR 2.5 billion, equivalent of 231.4 percent of quota), and a concurrent RSF arrangement of about US\$1.3 billion (SDR 1 billion, equivalent of 93.8 percent of quota).

The new ECF/EFF arrangement is aimed at restoring macroeconomic stability and preventing disruptive adjustments to protect the vulnerable, while promoting structural change to support strong inclusive and green growth, Mr. Rahul Anand, who led the IMF team, said in a statement issued at the end of their visit.



The staff-level agreement is subject to IMF management approval and Executive Board endorsement, which is expected in the coming weeks said Mr Anand, a Senior Economist in the Asia Pacific Department of the IMF.

The IMF team visited Dhaka from October 26 to November 9 to discuss the IMF's support for Bangladesh and the authorities' comprehensive economic reform agenda.

Source: <https://www.bssnews.net/business/90924#:~:text=DHAKA%2C%20OC1%2030%2C%202022%20,%20of%20the%20preceding%20year%202021>

Bangladesh will be among first to receive G7 'Global Shield' climate funding



Source: <https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/g7-global-shield-bangladesh-among-first-receive-climate-funding-3170396>

Bangladesh, Pakistan and Ghana will be among the first recipients of funding from a G7 'Global Shield' initiative to provide funding to countries suffering climate disasters, the programme announced on November 14 at the COP27 summit in Egypt.

The Global Shield, coordinated by G7 president Germany, aims to provide rapid access for climate-vulnerable countries to insurance and disaster protection funding after floods or drought. It is being developed in collaboration with the 'V20' group of 58 climate vulnerable economies.

A statement issued by Germany on Nov 14 listed Bangladesh, Costa Rica, Fiji, Ghana, Pakistan, the Philippines and Senegal as some of the initial recipients of Global Shield packages.

Those packages would be developed in the coming months, Germany said

Foreign investment proposals in Bangladesh rise by 809.75pc in July-Sept: BIDA

Fully foreign and joint venture investment proposals with Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) rose by 809.75 percent (Taka 17,079.67 crore) during the July-September quarter in 2022 compared to the same period of the preceding year 2021.

According to the latest data of BIDA, the overall investment proposals with BIDA rose by a staggering 54.46 percent during the July-September quarter compared to the same period of the preceding year 2021.

During this July-September period, BIDA received some 223 investment proposals involving Taka 31,610.34 crore, which was Taka 20,463.92 crore during the same period at the previous fiscal.

BIDA received 198 proposals involving Taka 14,530.67 crore from local investors during this July to September period while there were 09 fully foreign and 16 joint venture proposals of Taka 17,079.67 crore.

The investment proposals from local and foreign entrepreneurs are expected to create 74,032 job opportunities in the country.

Source: <https://www.bssnews.net/business/90924#:~:text=DHAKA%2C%20Oct%2030%2C%202022%20,of%20the%20preceding%20year%202021>



World Bank Vice President Raiser reiterates support to Bangladesh



Source: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2022/09/21/world-bank-vice-president-visits-bangladesh-reiterates-continued-support>

Martin Raiser, the World Bank vice president for South Asia, has reaffirmed the global lender's "continued support" to Bangladesh.

The Washington-based global lender issued a statement after Mr Raiser concluded his second visit to Bangladesh on November 14 as the country sought additional support from it.

On the final day of his visit, Martin Raiser called on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and thanked her for the country's leading role in climate change adaptation and disaster preparedness, the World Bank said.

After meeting with the World Bank vice-president, Finance Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal said Bangladesh expects \$500 million additional budget support from the World Bank on top of \$1 billion it secured between April 2019 and April 2022.

Bangladesh's per capita income increases to \$2824

Bangladesh's per capita income rose to \$2824 in the fiscal year 2021-2022.

In a year, the average annual income rose by \$233 from \$2591 in the previous fiscal, according to the annual report on the activities of the ministries and divisions in FY2021-2022.

The report was presented at a Cabinet meeting on 14 November chaired by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

According to the report, the country's growth rate of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was 7.25% in the last fiscal.

Besides, Bangladesh's revenue grew by 4.18% to Tk3,42,400 crore during this period.

Meanwhile, the expatriates sent \$21.03 billion to the country with 9,84,759 Bangladeshis recruited in offshore jobs.

Source: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/bangladeshs-capita-income-rises-2824-3020426>



US keen to cooperate on maritime security with Bangladesh



The United States is keen to cooperate with Bangladesh over different issues related to maritime security including combating illegal fishing.

This was discussed while visiting US Assistant Deputy Secretary for South and Central Asia Ms Afreen Akhter held a meeting with Secretary (Maritime Affairs Unit) of the Foreign Ministry Rear Admiral (Retd) Md Khurshed Alam on November 6.

"Very exciting to be here to talk about a whole range of issues," Ms Akhter told reporters after emerging from the meeting.

Afreen Akhter, who arrived in Dhaka on November 5 on a two-day visit to Dhaka, said they also talked regarding the issue over forcefully displaced Rohingyas.

Before leaving Dhaka, Afreen Akhter had a breakfast meeting with Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen at a hotel in the capital.

Source: <https://www.state.gov/u-s-security-cooperation-with-bangladesh/>

Bangladesh seen on track to be a \$1 trillion economy by 2040: BCG report

Bangladesh is on course to become a \$1 trillion economy by 2040, driven by consumer optimism, innovation in emerging economic sectors and a young engaged workforce, according to Boston Consulting Group.

With average annual growth of 6.4% between 2016 and 2021, the South Asian nation has outpaced peers such as India, Indonesia, Vietnam, the Philippines and Thailand, BCG wrote in a report released on 24 November.

Bangladesh's domestic consumer market is set to become the ninth-largest in the world. And a rapidly expanding middle and affluent class is projected to rise substantially between 2020 and 2025, the report said, with a robust gig economy propping up a workforce where the median age is just 28.

"The country could have easily been overshadowed by its neighbor to the northeast -- China -- or its continental cousin to the west -- India -- but in this region of economic powerhouses, Bangladesh stands tall," BCG wrote.



Source: https://www.business-standard.com/article/international/bangladesh-seen-on-track-to-be-a-1-trillion-economy-by-2040-bcg-report-122112500526_1.html