



## PM stresses collective efforts for sustained global economic growth

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has placed six proposals before the G20 platform, saying these are needed to be addressed collectively for sustained global economic growth and development of the "global south".

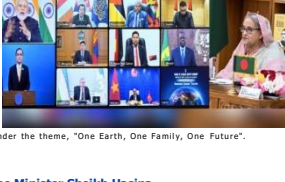
"Taking current global economy (amid Russia-Ukraine war and the Covid-19 pandemic) into account- it is high time to work collectively for a just and fair economic order," she said.

The Prime Minister said this while addressing virtually the "Inaugural Leaders' Session" in the "Voice of the South Summit 2023" in New Delhi, India, from her official Ganabhaban residence on January 12.

She thanked the Indian government for inviting Bangladesh as a guest country to this important summit that would give them a unique opportunity to engage with their counterparts across the globe

To this effect, the premier said that Bangladesh, a country of global South, welcomes India's vision as the President of G20 to ensure inclusive development under the theme, "One Earth, One Family, One Future".

Source: <https://www.bssnews.net/news-flash/104752>



## Don't spread propaganda to hinder constitutional process: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has called upon the pro-democratic and rule of law-believing political parties and organisations not to spread the propaganda being hatched on the social media to hinder the country's constitutional process.

"I am urging the political parties and organisations, believing in democracy and the rule of law, not to favour and provoke any weird idea that can impede the country's constitutional process," she said.

The Premier also sought countrymen's vigil so none can snatch away the people's rights as she made a televised address to the nation marking the fourth year completion of Awami League (AL) government's current tenure on January 6.

She asked all to remain alert as the anti-liberation forces, power grabbers, looters of people's wealth and parasites are out to create instability to capture power from the backdoor and impede democratic process while the national election will be held at the year end or beginning of the next year.

The Prime Minister hoped a free, fair and neutral election will be held, saying her government will provide all required cooperation to the election commission (EC) to this end.

Source: <https://www.bssnews.net/news-flash/103740>

## Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina stresses increasing people's purchasing power, domestic market expansion

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has laid emphasis on expansion of domestic market and increasing purchasing power of people to make the local industry more effective.

"Alongside the export, we have to put concentration on expansion of domestic market and increasing the purchasing power of people. It will make our industry more effective and production will be boosted," she said.

The Prime Minister made this remarks while addressing the inaugural ceremony of the month-long Dhaka International Trade Fair (DITF)-2023 at Bangabandhu Bangladesh-China Friendship Exhibition Center at Purbachal on the city's outskirts on January 1.

She said today's diplomacy is not political; rather it will be economic diplomacy.

"I've directed all the embassies and foreign missions to explore the products' demand abroad and to find out that what types of products we can export there or from where we can bring investment," she added.

The Prime Minister said analysing the demand and necessity of different countries, "we will produce products in our country and then we will export those to those countries".

All the embassies and foreign ministries have been asked to work to this end, she said, adding, "We will boost our trade in this way."

Source: <https://www.bssnews.net/news-flash/102816>



## Government taking preparations to hold free, fair election: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said the government is taking all kinds of preparations to hold the country's next general election in a free and fair manner.

"The next election will be held in a free and fair manner, and we are taking all kinds of preparations," she said while outgoing Switzerland Ambassador Nathalie Chuard called on her at her Sangsad Bhaban office in Dhaka on January 26.

The Prime Minister said that after enacting Election Commission Law, the government has formed the neutral election commission through a search committee.

She added that the foreign observers will come to oversee the election and they can do their job freely.

Source: <https://www.bssnews.net/news-flash/107394>

## Foreign observers are welcome in next general election: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said the next polls will be held as per the constitution of the country, and her government is ready to welcome election observers.

The Prime Minister made the remarks while four lawmakers of the British All-Party Parliamentary Group called on her at her office on January 4.

"We follow your Westminster type of democracy. We do not have any problem if election observers come," she said.

The Premier said that Awami League as a political party has its long tradition of fighting for the restoration of democracy from the clutches of military rulers in the past.

She urged the UK entrepreneurs to make investment in the 100 economic zones across the country.



Source: <https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/foreign-observers-welcome-during-next-general-election-pm-tells-british-mps-562646>

## 2022 a year of setting milestones for Bangladesh: Sajeeb Wazed

Prime Minister ICT Advisor Sajeeb Wazed Joy has said 2022 was a year of setting milestones for the country, while wishing everyone a happy new year.

In a video, posted on his verified Facebook page on January 1, Joy also placed a resolve to make 2023 full of new accomplishments under the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

The video incorporated a list of the biggest achievements of Bangladesh, including the Padma Bridge, metro rail service, and new power plants. Also, it showed the inauguration of 100 bridges recently and roads stretching over 2000km opened to traffic.

Amid global headlines throughout 2022, Bangladesh saw some of its "remarkable" infrastructure undertaking becoming operational.

Source: <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/2023/01/01/joy-2022-a-year-of-setting-milestones-for-bangladesh>

## Bangladesh envoys asked to respond anti-Bangladesh propaganda spontaneously

Foreign Minister Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen has directed all Bangladesh envoys abroad to respond "spontaneously" against all sorts of anti-Bangladesh propaganda in their respective host countries without waiting Dhaka's permission.

Talking to reporters at his office on January 2, the Foreign Minister said sometimes Bangladesh envoys wait for Dhaka's permission or approval to respond against anti-Bangladesh propaganda in their respective countries.

"My all missions are extension of my ministry ... we have to work as a team," he said.

The Foreign Minister addressed virtually the Heads of Bangladesh Missions abroad and senior officials on January 1 evening highlighting the government's foreign policy priorities and guidelines to be pursued in 2023.

Meanwhile, the government has formed a coordination committee with the home and law affairs ministries led by the foreign ministry to deal with a "coordinated way" and fight against misinformation by presenting correct information.

The decision was taken at a meeting held at the state guesthouse Padma on January 1 with Foreign Minister Dr A.K. Abdul Momen in the chair.

Law Minister Anisul Huq, Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan and representatives from the law enforcement agencies were present.

Source: <https://www.bssnews.net/news-flash/103048>



## Bangladesh gets geopolitical attention for Prime Minister's balanced foreign policy: Foreign Minister Momen

Foreign Minister Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen had said Bangladesh is getting geopolitical attention from different global super powers due to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's balanced foreign policy.

"We have gained (geopolitical importance). I must thank honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina as many (countries) are paying attention to us due to her balanced foreign policy," he told newsmen at the foreign ministry on January 11.

Dr. Momen made the remarks as new Chinese foreign minister Qin Gang made a stopover in Dhaka in the small hours on January 11.

The Chinese Foreign Minister held a bilateral talk with his Bangladesh counterpart at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport making a stopover on his way to Africa.

"This is good news, that we are getting enough importance from many (countries)," said the Bangladesh Foreign Minister.

Apart from the geopolitics, Dr. Momen said, Bangladesh has put its footprint under global spotlight as it became the 35th largest economy in the world.

Asked on Bangladesh's balanced foreign policy amid tensed relations between the US and China, Momen said, "That is a challenging thing".

He, however, said Bangladesh has been maintaining successfully its dictum of foreign policy - friendship to all, malice towards none.

Source: <https://www.bssnews.net/news-flash/104364>

## Government committed to hold free, fair election: Foreign Minister Abdul Momen conveys to US

Foreign Minister Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen has said he discussed all major issues, including labour and human rights, constructively without any reservation with visiting US Assistant Secretary of State Donald Lu.

"We had very good discussion on all issues without any reservation ... we are very happy that we came under consensus largely," he told reporters after holding a meeting with the US top official at the Foreign Ministry on January 15.

The Foreign Minister said they also talked about Bangladesh's upcoming national elections.

Dr Momen said he conveyed to the US side that the current government is committed to holding free, fair and transparent polls as Awami League believes in "ballots not in bullets".

He informed the US side that the Bangladesh government has ensured voters photo ID, transparent ballot box, and set up a powerful independent election commission to make the election free and fair.

The Foreign Minister said Dhaka is ready to take any good suggestions from the US if those are people's welfare-oriented.

Terming the US as an old friend of Bangladesh for last 50 years, Dr Momen said they discussed how Dhaka and Washington would make the ties more meaningful and closer in the next 50 years. "We are looking for better days in future," he added.

The Foreign Minister said the US has expressed happiness regarding recent performance of the Rapid Action Battalion as they are able to perform their duties respecting human rights.

Dr. Momen said that Donald Lu came here to further strengthen the existing Bangladesh-US relations.

The Foreign Minister said the US Assistant Secretary of State made some suggestions to further improve the labour rights in Bangladesh so that Dhaka can get access to the US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) fund.

"We have already given a roadmap to the Labour Ministry to address the issue," said the Foreign Minister.

Dr. Momen said he also urged the US investors to invest more in Bangladesh in different sectors, including energy, considering Bangladesh as a "rising sun".

Apart from the Foreign Minister, the US Assistant Secretary of State also held separate meetings with State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md. Shahriar Alam and Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen at the ministry.

Briefing reporters, US Assistant Secretary of State Donald Lu said Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) has made "tremendous" progress showing that it is able to carry out its function respecting human rights.

"We had quite good discussion about the RAB. We (also) recognised tremendous progresses in the area," Mr. Lu said.

The top US official said the US would speak when it sees problems and offer suggestions. "We will stand up for freedom of speech, freedom of expression," he added.

Donald Lu said that Bangladesh would be the first country to be eligible for the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) if the US Congress authorises the trade scheme.

"We are still waiting for our Congress to authorise GSP to any country. We are working very closely with the government. So, when it is authorised, the first country on the list will be Bangladesh," he said.

Later, Donald Lu joined a lunch hosted by the Foreign Secretary at Foreign Service Academy.

Awami League International Affairs Secretary Dr. Shammil Ahmed, Prof. Imtiaz Ahmed, Dr. Lalufar Yasmin, Dr. Delwar Hossain and Chief Executive of the Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (BELA) Syeda Rizwana Hasan, among others, were also present at the lunch.

Meanwhile, the US Assistant Secretary said Washington will be focusing on whether there is intimidation during the next national elections due early next year and say it publicly, considering that it is important for the democracies to provide feedback and encourage each other for better democracies.

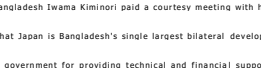
"We will focus if there is intimidation of voters or the leaders during the elections from the government, opposition or the law enforcing agencies, and we will say it publicly," he said in an interview with the national daily following his meetings with the ministers, officials and civil society leaders.

Donald Lu said the main focus of his visit to Bangladesh is to show that the US is a reliable partner of Bangladesh and that the two countries share the vision of Bangladeshi people for a stronger democracy, more prosperity and for stability.

Source: <https://www.bssnews.net/news/105358>, <https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/diplomacy/news/data-protection-act-sweeping-comments-shouldnt-be-made-3240711>



## Foreign Minister Momen, State Minister Shahriar thanks Japan for support for implementing metro rail



Foreign Minister Dr AK Abdul Momen has thanked the government of Japan for providing technical and financial support for the implementation of various projects including the metro rail.

The Foreign Minister said this when newly appointed Ambassador of Japan to Bangladesh Iwama Kiminori paid a courtesy meeting with him at his office on January 10.

Welcoming the newly appointed Japanese envoy, Foreign Minister Momen said that Japan is Bangladesh's single largest bilateral development partner and an important country for trade and investment.

State Minister of Foreign Affairs Md. Shahriar Alam also thanked the Japanese government for providing technical and financial support for the implementation of the Metrorail project.

He made this comment during a courtesy meeting with the newly appointed Ambassador of Japan to Bangladesh at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on January 2.

Highlighting Japan's cooperation in the socio-economic development of Bangladesh, the State Minister expressed hope that bilateral relations between the two countries will reach a new height during the tenure of the new Ambassador.

Source: <https://www.bssnews.net/news-flash/103088>

## Foreign Minister Abdul Momen directs envoys to intensify efforts to promote Bangladesh's trade

Foreign Minister Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen has said he directed all the envoys staying abroad to intensify their efforts to promote trade of Bangladesh in their respective host countries.

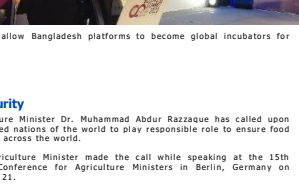
"I have directed officers in the (foreign) ministry to redouble our efforts to promote Bangladesh's trade and investment," he said while speaking at Bangladesh Business Summit and Networking Luncheon organized by FBCCI in Dhaka on January 19.

The Foreign Minister said the government is working with its best possible calculations to stabilize our production ecosystems and keep trade and investment flowing.

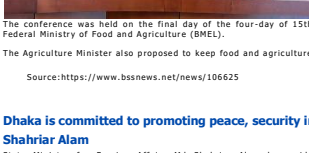
Referring to recent IMF data that shows in terms of nominal GDP, Bangladesh's economy is the 35th largest economy, Dr. Momen said this is a big achievement for the country, and it shows that "we are moving towards the right direction to become a trillion-dollar economy within 2035."

"We have the potential to become an international business and manufacturing hub and it is time we start creating narratives which would allow Bangladesh platforms to become global incubators for innovation and entrepreneurship," he said.

Source: <https://www.bssnews.net/business/106147>



## Bangladesh urges developed nations to play role in food security



Agriculture Minister Dr. Muhammad Abdur Razaque has called upon developed nations of the world to play decisive role to ensure food security across the world.

The Agriculture Minister made the call while speaking at the 15th Berlin Conference for Agriculture Ministers in Berlin, Germany on January 21.

Dr. Razaque said Bangladesh is an innocent victim of the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war. This war has put an impact on food security as the price of fertilizers foodgrains has increased manifold due to the war, he said.

"So, I urge the developed nations to take flexible, adhocry and prompt steps to mitigate the negative impact," he said.

The conference was held on the final day of the four-day of 15th Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA), organized by the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL).

The Agriculture Minister also proposed to keep food and agriculture materials out of war and sanctions.

Source: <https://www.bssnews.net/news/106625>

## Dhaka is committed to promoting peace, security in indo pacific: State Minister Shahriar Alam

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md Shahriar Alam has said Bangladesh is committed to promoting peace and security not only in Indian Ocean but also in greater area of Indo-Pacific.

"We (Bangladesh) will hopefully come out with our own strategy (regarding Indo-Pacific) very soon," he said while speaking as the chief guest at a senior level dialogue on "Bangladesh and the Indo-Pacific Collaboration: Priority Issues and Concerns" in Dhaka on January 21.

The State Minister said Bangladesh recognizes its geo-strategic importance and is yet to sign any trade treaty under the purview of Indo-Pacific.

Regarding Rohingya crisis, State Minister Alam said, it is one of the most challenging tasks for the law enforcement agencies to deal with the safety and security issues of the Rohingyas and the host community in Cox's Bazar.

He referred to various criminal activities in the Rohingya camps and assured of taking appropriate steps to maintain law and order situation there.

The State Minister said that Bangladesh would not compromise its national security if Rohingyas are found to be engaging in criminal activities like terrorism, human trafficking, drug running and gender-based violence.

Bangladesh Center for Indo Pacific Affairs and Department of International Relations, Jahangirnagar University (JU) hosted the dialogue moderated by Bangladesh Center for Indo-Pacific Affairs Executive Director Professor Shahab Enam Khan.

Source: <https://www.bssnews.net/news-flash/106455>



## Dhaka, Washington discuss Rohingya, defence cooperation and maritime security



Foreign Secretary Momen and Rear Admiral Laubacher discussed the support of the international community for this distressed population "as there is enormous demand for resources for the livelihood of this large population".

The Foreign Secretary thanked the US government for supporting the resolutions in the United Nations related to the Rohingya and also for recognising the genocide.

Source: <https://www.bssnews.net/news/104271>

Bangladesh and the US have discussed issues, including Rohingya repatriation, defence cooperation and maritime security, during the visit of Rear Admiral Eileen Laubacher, US National Security Council's Senior Director for South Asia, to Dhaka.

The US National Security Council's senior director for South Asia, who paid on a four-day visit to Bangladesh from January 7 to January 11, met Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen on January 9.

They also discussed cooperation in humanitarian assistance, Indo-Pacific strategy, development, strengthening capacities of the law-enforcement agencies and cyber security.

Rear Admiral Laubacher visited the Rohingya refugee camps in Cox's Bazar on January 8 after arriving in Dhaka the previous day.

She praised the bold decision of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for allowing in and providing shelter to over a million forcibly displaced Myanmar nationals who were fleeing "genocide", according to the statement.

## Bangladesh Ambassador presents credentials to US President: US acknowledges enduring partnership with Bangladesh: Joe Biden



US President Joe Biden has said his country acknowledges their enduring partnership with Dhaka and termed Bangladesh's economic growth in the past 50 years as a "remarkable story".

He made the remarks while accepting the credentials of the newly-appointed Bangladesh Ambassador to the USA Muhammad Imran at the White House.

"As 2022 marks the 50th anniversary of U.S.-Bangladesh relations, I would like to acknowledge our enduring partnership with Bangladesh," Mr. Biden mentioned in his written remarks.

While formally presenting the credentials to the US President recently, Ambassador Imran conveyed the greetings of President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to the US President.

"My Administration looks forward to working with you to deepen our relations as we address the opportunities and challenges ahead. It is a pleasure to welcome you to Washington," the US President said in a letter to the Ambassador.

Mr. Biden also assured the Bangladesh Ambassador of extending all sorts of cooperation during his tenure in the United States.

Bangladesh has emerged as an important partner on international trade and investment, climate change, humanitarian, refugee, United Nations Peacekeeping, and counterterrorism, maritime and other security issues, he continued.

Mr. Biden said Bangladesh has expanded its largely agrarian-based economy to a regional economic power poised to become a major participant in global supply chains.

"I hope our nations will continue to work on democratic governance, climate change, refugees, and maritime security. We are invested in your success and support the ability of all Bangladeshis to freely participate in and contribute to their country's development," he said.

Appreciating Bangladesh's generosity in hosting nearly one million Rohingyas, the US President said they will continue to support Bangladesh in assisting these refugees and their host communities, and protecting their rights.

The United States is committed to finding sustainable and durable solutions to this humanitarian crisis, he said.

On the COVID-19 pandemic, the US President mentioned that the United States is proud to partner with Bangladesh to address the global pandemic under the COVID-19 Global Action Plan. "We are committed to expanding our growing partnership in the months and years ahead," he remarked.

This was for the first time after the coronavirus pandemic, the US president in White House recently received in-person the credentials of the newly-appointed envoys. Ambassador Imran was the first in a group of 10 ambassadors who presented credentials.

After returning from the White House, Ambassador Imran paid rich tributes to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman by placing a floral wreath at the bust of Bangabandhu at Bangladesh Embassy.

## Bangladesh Embassy in Washington DC observes Bangabandhu's "Homecoming Day"



The historic "Homecoming Day" of the greatest Bangalee of all time Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was observed at the Bangladesh Embassy in Washington DC on January 10 in a befitting manner.

Bangabandhu, the undisputed leader of the Bangalee nation, returned to the sacred soil of independent Bangladesh via London and New Delhi on January 10 in 1972, after 290 days of confinement in Pakistan jail.

The Embassy arranged a program by remembering the landmark day and paid profound homage to the great architect of Independence.

The day's program started with placing of a floral wreath at the bust of Bangabandhu by the Embassy officials led by Charge d'Affaires of the Embassy Ferdousi Shahriar.

The messages of President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina were read out by Defence Attaché Brigadier General Md Shahedul Islam and Minister (Political-II) Md Rashedujjaman.

Later, a discussion session was held at the Bangabandhu Auditorium of the Mission highlighting the significance of the day.

Taking part in the discussion, Charge d'Affaires of the Embassy Ferdousi Shahriar paid deepest homage to Bangabandhu who led the Bengali nation in achieving its long-cherished independence.

Highlighting the significance of the historic day for the nation, Ferdousi Shahriar said under Bangabandhu's unwavering leadership, the Bengali nation snatched ultimate victory in the great Liberation War on 16 December in 1971. With the homecoming of the great leader on this day, the joy of the final victory of the Liberation War was fulfilled, she added.

The Charge d'Affaires requested all to work from their respective positions with utmost sincerity and integrity under the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to build 'Sonar Bangla' (Golden Bangladesh) and a developed and prosperous 'Smart Bangladesh' by 2041 being imbued with the ideology of Bangabandhu and the spirit of the great Liberation War.

The program ended with offering special prayers seeking eternal peace of the departed souls of Bangabandhu and other martyrs of the August 15 carnage as well as continued peace, progress and prosperity of the nation. Mohammad Moniruzzaman, Counsellor (Political-I), conducted the program.

## Bangladesh-US collaborate to combat human trafficking



Bangladesh and the United States (US) have collaborated to expand National Plan of Action to prevent human Trafficking.

Charge d'Affaires of U.S. Embassy in Dhaka Helen LaFave joined Public Security Division Secretary of the Home Ministry on January 18 to inaugurate a workshop to revise and extend the National Plan of Action for Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking.

The U.S. Agency for International Development's (USAID) Fight Slavery and Trafficking in Persons Project organized the event to bring together government and civil society stakeholders to incorporate feedback from regional workshops into the revised National Plan of Action.

"No plan can be successful if it doesn't lead to action. This is why the United States will continue to support the Government of Bangladesh's efforts to trafficking-in-persons," said Charge d'Affaires LaFave.

strengthen the National Plan of Action and end the horrific crime of trafficking-in-persons, said Charge d'Affaires LaFave.

Bangladesh has made progress in curbing trafficking-in-persons in recent years, having established seven special tribunals, created anti-trafficking task forces, and implemented the National Plan of Action.

The expansion of the National Plan of Action will run through 2025 and strengthen measures to prosecute perpetrators more efficiently while protecting survivors and helping them reintegrate into society.

Source: <https://www.bssnews.net/news/105972>

## IMF to continue support for Bangladesh to be developed country by 2041



International Monetary Fund (IMF) will continue support for Bangladesh to accomplish its aspiration to become a developed, prosperous and higher income country by 2041, Deputy Managing Director Antoinette Monsio Sayeh has said.

She said this while paying a courtesy call on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her official residence Ganabhaban on January 16.

Antoinette Monsio said IMF cherishes the long standing partnership with Bangladesh, and she came here to further strengthen the relationship.

The Prime Minister said Bangladesh does not want any assistance from the IMF for bail-out, rather the country has wanted the support as a preemptive measure.

The IMF deputy managing director said the whole world including Bangladesh faces challenges due to the staggering impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic and a difficult situation

because of the Russia-Ukraine war.

She assured that the IMF will stay beside Bangladesh to face this difficult time.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has lauded Bangladesh for its proactive economic management amid the coronavirus pandemic.

Quoting the IMF Deputy Managing Director (DMD) Antoinette Monsio Sayeh, Bangladesh Bank (BB) Spokesperson Mezbaul Haque said this after a meeting with an IMF delegation at the central bank headquarters in the city on January 15.

The four-member IMF team, including its DMD Antoinette Monsio Sayeh, arrived in Dhaka on 14 January on a five-day visit.

Mezbaul Haque said the issues of discussion at the meeting included challenges to be faced in the upcoming monetary policy. He said the meeting also discussed several issues including climate financing from the IMF.

Source: <https://www.bssnews.net/news-flash/105459>

## Bangladesh is now the 35th largest economy in the world

Bangladesh is now the 35th largest economy in the world, according to a report titled 'The Top Heavy Global Economy', published by 'Visual Capitalist', a Canadian online publication.

Bangladesh and India were the only two South Asian countries considered to be part of the 50 largest economies in this list based on International Monetary Fund (IMF) statistics.

Citing IMF statistics, 'Visual Capitalist' disclosed this information on December 29. Countries are listed in terms of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

As per the report, Bangladesh is the 35th largest economies in 2022 with a GDP size of US\$460.8 billion. Earlier, the rank of Bangladesh was 41st.

According to the report, the neighboring country India has moved to the fifth place in the world economy. Earlier, it was in sixth position.

Source: <https://www.bssnews.net/news-flash/103722>



## Bangladesh's remittance rises in December, record 11.25 lakh foreign jobs in 2022



Inward remittance in Bangladesh maintained an upward trend in December for the second month in a row in the just-ended year that saw a seesaw movement in earnings from expatriates despite a record 11.25 lakh overseas jobs.

Remittance inflow to the country increased by 4.23% year-on-year to \$1.7 billion in December 2022 although full year earnings were lower than that of a year ago, Bangladesh Bank data show.

However, the year ended with \$21.29 billion sent home by workers abroad, down from \$22.07 billion of the past year – a decline attributed to global economic slowdown and a surge in hundi transactions due to exchange rate mismatches.

The figure is not commensurate with the whopping 82% growth in manpower export as overseas job market analysts believe it may take some more months for the newly-hired workers to be able to send money home.

The record manpower export in 2022 was due to increased demand in some major destinations and opening of some new markets, according to the Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training (BMET).

Source: <https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/remittance-rises-december-record-1125-lakh-foreign-jobs-2022-561506>

## Global Innovation Index: Bangladesh moves up 14 notches



Bangladesh has advanced 14 spots in the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2022 in a major stride but it still lags behind some of its innovative peers.

The ranking by the United Nations' World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) placed the country at 102nd last year, up from 116th in 2021, among 132 economies.

Although Bangladesh's overall score was 19.7 compared to top-ranked Switzerland's 64.6, its performance was in line with the level of the country's development, according to the report.

The index uses various indicators to rank innovation. They include measures on the political environment, education, infrastructure and knowledge creation.

Bangladesh performs relatively well in the creative output category, advancing to 87th place from 123rd a year earlier, driven by its solid progress in industrial design, global brand value, and mobile app creation. In the institution category, Bangladesh moved up 13 notches to 109th.

Source: <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/news/bangladesh-moves-14-notches-3221211#:~:text=12%3A56%20PM-,Bangladesh%20has%20advanced%2014%20spots%20in%20the%20Global%20Innovation%20Index,in%202021%2C%20among%20132%20economies.>

## Bangladesh's export earnings post 10.58% growth in July-Dec

The country's overall export earnings have bounced back from the global uncertainties as it posted a growth of 10.58 percent during the first half (July-December) period of the current fiscal year (FY23) compared to the same period of the last fiscal.

The export earnings during the first half of the current fiscal year totaled \$27,311.26 million against \$24,698.55 million during the same period of the last fiscal year (FY22).

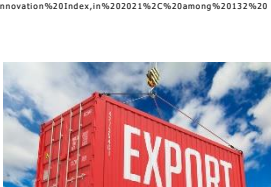
According to the latest statistics of the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB), the single-month exports witnessed a record \$5,365.19 million, a single-month historic high of Bangladesh.

The previous earning record was \$5.09 billion in November last year. The single-month export earnings in December last year were \$4,907.68 million.

The EPB data showed that as usual the RMG represents the bulk of the earnings during this six-month period with \$22,996.69 million having a growth of 15.56 percent.

Out of that amount, the highest \$12,659.68 million came from knitwear while \$10,337.01 million came from woven garment with a growth of 18.29 percent. The overall export earnings target in this fiscal is \$58 billion.

Source: <https://www.bssnews.net/news-flash/106455>



## World Bank has growing dynamic relationship with Bangladesh: Alex Trotsenburg

Terming the World Bank Bangladesh relationship as a "success story", visiting World Bank Managing Director Alex von Trotsenburg has said that the lending agency has growing dynamic relationship with Bangladesh which has a huge potential for further growth.

"The World Bank believes passionately for the development of this country and always believed it," he told a press conference in Dhaka on January 22.

The press conference was convened on the occasion of the visit of the World Bank MD to Bangladesh marking the 50 years partnership between the World Bank and Bangladesh.

Asked about the growing challenges before the country, Mr. Alex said that as per the latest Global Economic Prospect of the World Bank, the global economic growth has been projected at 1.7 percent, the lowest growth the world has experienced over the last three decades, although the global growth projection was 3 percent in last June.

"This indicates that how challenged the global economy is while Bangladesh is also integrated with the world economy," he added.

Asked whether their decision for withdrawing funding from the Padma Multipurpose Bridge Project was wrong or not, the World Bank MD said that over the last 50 years, the World Bank Group has committed over \$42 billion to Bangladesh against some 365 projects.

"We've always said that we're going to be a long-term partner ...there can be sometimes ups and downs, but the main thing is that the World Bank stay focused on the development," he said.

Source: <https://www.bssnews.net/news/106639>

