



## Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina urges global leaders to stop war, restore mutual respect



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has called upon the global leaders to stop war and restore mutual respect among the nations for ensuring peace and progress.

"Human connectivity is the lifeline for peace and progress. We must put an end to wars, conflicts, and the arms race," she said while addressing the opening plenary session of the "Global Gateway Forum" conference at the GGF Conference in Brussels on October 25.

She also sought European Union (EU)'s continued trade preferences for Bangladesh's smooth LDC graduation.

Describing the EU as a trusted trade, development, and humanitarian partner for Bangladesh, she said, "We seek the EU's continued trade preferences for our smooth LDC graduation".

The Premier urged EU countries to come up with larger investment in Bangladesh particularly in its special economic zones and hi-tech parks being built across the country.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina called upon the European Union (EU) to give Bangladesh the GSP+ facilities to support the country in its development efforts following the LDC graduation in 2026.

"I hope that the EU will offer GSP+ to Bangladesh to support our development following our LDC graduation in 2026," she said in a statement at the signing ceremony of a number of agreements at the EU Headquarters in Brussels on October 25.

The Premier and the European Commission Chairman Ursula von der Leyen witnessed the signing of a number of agreements, including a 350 million Euro Finance Contract between Bangladesh government and the European Investment Bank (EIB) at the European Commission Headquarters, Brussels.

She thanked the EU for its humanitarian assistance for the 1.2 million Rohingyas being temporarily sheltered by Bangladesh and said the solution to the Rohingya crisis lies in their safe and sustainable return to their homeland in Myanmar.

Source : <https://www.bssnews.net/news-flash/154744>

## Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina opens first-ever underwater tunnel in Bangladesh

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has opened the much-anticipated nearly 3.315km underwater expressway tunnel, first of its kind in South Asia, beneath the River Karnaphuli in Chattogram.

The premier unveiled the plaque of the tunnel named "Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Tunnel" which connected Chattogram's Patenga with Anwara upazila and took first ride through the tunnel.

The 9.39 km-long tunnel including approach road, was built at a cost of Taka 10,689 crore.

In terms of connecting two regions of the country, the tunnel is the second "dream scheme" in road transport sector after the Padma Bridge. The tunnel has been built following the "one city two towns" model like Shanghai in China.

It would connect the proposed Asian Highway with Dhaka-Chattogram-Cox's Bazar Highway by reducing distance by 40km.

Source : <https://www.bssnews.net/news-flash/155182>



## Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina opens HSIA's 3rd terminal, bringing revolution to aviation



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has made soft opening of the iconic third terminal of the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport (HSIA) in Dhaka, bringing a revolutionary change to the country's aviation sector aiming in providing world class passenger services and security.

She partially opened the new scenic terminal by unveiling a plaque at the HSIA on October 7 with the slogan of "connecting dreams to reality."

After the inauguration, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said Bangladesh would be an international aviation hub as it is in between air routes of the East and the West. The global airlines will land either at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport or Cox's Bazar International Airport for refueling, she said.

The prime minister said her government is upgrading the aviation sector to make Bangladesh a global aviation hub in future. The third terminal with modern facilities will help expand international air connectivity, she said.

Source : <https://www.bssnews.net/news-flash/151240>

## IRI, NDI delegation calls on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said that they are committed to uphold democracy in Bangladesh.

The Premier made this remark when a 12-member delegation of International Republican Institute (IRI) and National Democratic Institute (NDI) pre-election assessment mission (PEAM) from the USA paid a courtesy call on her in Dhaka on October 12.

Sheikh Hasina said the ideology of her party, Bangladesh Awami League (AL), is to uphold democracy and AL has been fighting for democracy. She briefly apprised the delegation of the history of Bangladesh's democracy.

Former Deputy USAID Administrator Bonnie Glick, who led the delegation, said Bangladesh has attained amazing economic development under the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Source : <https://www.bssnews.net/news-flash/152188>



## Biopic on Bangabandhu released



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has announced the formal release of the much-awaited biopic on Bangabandhu on October 12 and said the nation would learn a lot of unknown information and a new chapter of history through the movie "Mujib: The Making of a Nation".

She said this prior to watching the premiere show of the film at the Bangladesh Film Archive, Tejgaon in the capital.

Renowned Indian filmmaker Shyam Benegal directed the film, depicting the life and political odyssey of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

The film is a joint production of Bangladesh-India with the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Bangladesh and Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, India being the producers and Bangladesh Film Development Corporation (BFDC) and National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) Limited, India being the executive producers.

Source : <https://www.bssnews.net/news-flash/152358>

## Rohingya repatriation is only solution: Foreign Minister Abdul Momen

Foreign Minister Dr. AK Abdul Momen has said safe, voluntary and sustainable repatriation is the only solution of the Rohingya crisis.

He made the remarks while delivering the key note speech at the "High Level meeting on Rohingya Refugees" arranged by United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Bangkok, Thailand on October 17.

Dr. Momen urged for international community's meaningful engagement in Rakhine State to improve the situation there and to boost humanitarian support for the Rohingyas staying in Bangladesh.

The ongoing learning in Myanmar Curriculum and portable skill development activities for Rohingyas in Cox's Bazar and Bhasan Char should complement the repatriation initiatives, he said.

During the event, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi called on Bangladesh Foreign Minister.

Dr Momen thanked UNHCR for its continued humanitarian support for the Rohingyas and sought cooperation to realize the right and expectation of the forcefully displaced people to return to Myanmar.

Source : <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/national/rohingya-repatriation-is-only-solution-says-momen>



## Prime Minister's Adviser Salman Rahman meets US Under Secretary Uzra Zeya in Washington, DC



Mr. Salman F. Rahman, MP, the Prime Minister's Adviser for Private Industry and Investment, held a meeting with Ms. Uzra Zeya, the US Under Secretary for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights, on 27 October at the US Department of State in Washington DC.

They discussed a wide range of bilateral issues including further enhancing the existing excellent economic partnership between Bangladesh and the USA.

Adviser Rahman and Under Secretary Zeya also discussed recent conflicts in the Middle East, Rohingya issue and Bangladesh's election.

Uzra Zeya praised Bangladesh's generosity for hosting over 1.2 million Rohingya population and assured continued US support for them.

On the election issue, both acknowledged that in democracy, the only means to changing the government is through elections. Adviser Rahman reiterated Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's firm commitment to ensure that the upcoming elections are held in a free, fair and peaceful manner.

Under Secretary Zeya reaffirmed that the US does not support any particular political party, instead is keen to see the continuation of democracy in Bangladesh.

Bangladesh Ambassador to the USA Mr. Muhammad Imran, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asian Affairs Ms. Afreen Akhter and senior officials of Bangladesh Embassy and US State Department were present at the meeting.

## John Kerry and Saber Chowdhury meet in Washington: Bangladesh, USA keen to address climate change challenges

Bangladesh and the United States are keen to deepen their bilateral relations in addressing the defining challenges of climate change.

This was expressed at a meeting between Special Envoy to Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh for Climate Change Mr. Saber Hossain Chowdhury, MP and the U.S. Special Presidential Envoy for Climate Mr. John Kerry held on 24 October at the latter's office at the U.S. Department of State.

The envoys discussed mitigation, adaptation funding, technology transfer as well as loss and damage and shared perspectives to forge greater collaborations bilaterally and on global climate platforms including at the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP).

Bangladesh envoy Mr. Saber Chowdhury reiterated Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's commitment and leadership on climate issues and said that Bangladesh would continue to voice for the climate vulnerable and least developed countries to address the gaps in the implementation of global climate pledges.

He also briefed Mr. Kerry about various climate initiatives of Sheikh Hasina's progressive government including the "Mujib Climate Prosperity Plan" which plots a trajectory for Bangladesh from vulnerability to resilience to prosperity.

Special Presidential Envoy John Kerry said that the U.S. has been engaging with countries to reduce global emissions and working with institutions like the World Bank on funding issues.

Regarding investment in Bangladesh's renewable sector, Mr. Kerry said that the U.S. would be willing to be a partner in helping Bangladesh achieve its climate goals.

Both Mr. Chowdhury and Mr. Kerry underlined the importance and urgency of consensus building and global solidarity through enhanced collective efforts to make COP28 a success.

Bangladesh Ambassador to the United States Mr. Muhammad Imran was also present at the meeting.

Earlier in the day, Mr. Saber Hossain Chowdhury, MP chaired a global inquiry on public financing and progress on phase out of fossil fuels at the Senate Hart Building in Washington, D.C. U.S. Senator Mr. Ed Markey, Member of Canadian Senate Ms. Roza Galvez and leading parliamentarians from Uruguay, Bolivia, Colombia, Zambia and Uganda participated in the inquiry and heard from expert witnesses.



## Ambassador Imran shares Bangladesh's development journey with US Senators



Bangladesh Ambassador to the United States Mr. Muhammad Imran has shared the recent socioeconomic advancement of the country with two US Senators in Washington DC in the last week of October when he met them as a part of the Embassy's outreach program to further bolster the bilateral relations with the USA.

Ambassador Imran met Senator Jeff Markley (D-Oregon) and Senator Bill Hagerty (R-Tennessee) at their respective offices in the US capital. Both Senator Jeff Markley and Senator Bill Hagerty are members of Committee on Foreign Relations.

The Ambassador apprised the US lawmakers of Bangladesh's impressive socioeconomic development that took place in the last 15 years under the visionary and dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Ambassador Imran highlighted the progress made during this period in all social indicators including human development, health, poverty alleviation, women empowerment and gender equality. He also briefed them about the massive infrastructure development in Bangladesh.

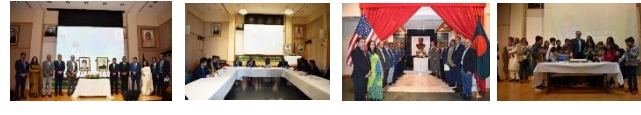
The US Senators praised Bangladesh's socioeconomic progress and expressed their keen interest to expand the Bangladesh-US ties. They also applauded Bangladesh's generosity for hosting over 1.4 million Rohingya refugees and assured of continued support for them.

The Ambassador thanked the United States for their support on the Rohingya issue, and urged them to take necessary measures for repatriation of the forcibly-displaced Rohingyas to their homeland.

Senator Jeff Markley mentioned about the special relations of his state with Bangladesh through State Partnership Program between Oregon National Guard and Bangladesh Armed Forces and expressed hope that US- Bangladesh relations would be further consolidated through future interactions.

During the meeting with the Bangladesh Ambassador, Senator Bill Hagerty, a former US Ambassador to Japan, showed interest in Bangladesh's development experience.

## "Sheikh Russel Day" observed at Bangladesh Embassy in Washington



The Bangladesh Embassy in Washington DC on 18 October observed the "Sheikh Russel Day", marking the 60th birthday of Shaheed Sheikh Russel, the youngest son of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, in a befitting manner.

The programmes began with placing of floral wreaths by Bangladesh Ambassador to the United States Mr. Muhammad Imran at the portraits of Shaheed Sheikh Russel and Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at the Bangabandhu Auditorium.

A Political titled "Brutal Assassination of Sheikh Russel and Human Rights" was held at the Bangabandhu Auditorium of the Embassy. Counselor (Political) Arifa Rahman Ruma presented the keynote speech at the seminar.

In her keynote speech, Ruma said Sheikh Russel is now a name of most painful tragedy for the Bangalee nation, and his assassination is the most heinous and hatred child killing in the world.

In his closing remarks, Bangladesh Ambassador Muhammad Imran highlighted Shaheed Sheikh Russel's unique virtues which he demonstrated in his only 10-year-old life. The brutal killing of Bangabandhu and his other family members including minor Sheikh Russel is one of the biggest violations of human rights in the world history, he said.

## Bangladesh's economy to grow by 6pc: IMF



The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has projected the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth for Bangladesh at six percent for the current fiscal 2023-24 (FY24).

The IMF also revised upward its projections for Bangladesh to six percent for 2022-23 from its previous forecast of 5.5 percent, according to its World Economic Outlook released on October 10.

Bangladesh government has set the target at 7.5 percent for FY24.

The IMF has forecast the headline Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation in Bangladesh to 7.2 percent in FY24.

Source : <https://www.bssnews.net/news-flash/151957>

## Bangladesh's export earnings notches 10.37% growth in September

Bangladesh's export earnings posted a healthy 10.37 percent growth in September this year totaling \$4,310.33 million.

The single-month export earnings are, however, 7.05 percent short of the strategic export target of \$4,637 million, according to the latest statistics of the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB). The export earnings in September last year were \$3,905.07 million.

The EPB figures showed that the overall export earnings during the first quarter (July-September) period of the current fiscal year (FY24) saw 9.51 percent growth totaling \$13,685.44 million against the strategic target of \$13,988 million.

The total earnings during the July-September period of the last fiscal year (FY23) totaled \$12,496.89 million.

Out of the overall exportable items, RMG continued to rule the overseas market during this three-month period bagging \$11,617.5 million with a 13.07 percent growth.

Source : <https://www.bssnews.net/business/150311>

