



**BANGLADESH
INDEPENDENCE DAY
26 MARCH**

THE DAILY **tribune**

A day of earning self-identity

I convey my heartiest greetings and congratulations to my countrymen as well as all expatriate Bangalees on the occasion of the great Independence and National Day of Bangladesh.

The 26th March is the day of earning self-identity of our nation. It's the day of breaking the shackles of subjugation. On the eve of the Independence Day, I recall with deep gratitude the greatest Bangalee of all times, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, under whose undisputed leadership we earned our coveted independence. I pay my deep homage to the 3 million martyrs. I also pay my tributes to four national leaders who steered the War of Liberation in the absence of Bangabandhu. My homage goes to the valiant freedom fighters, including the wounded ones. I extend my sympathies to those who had lost their near

and dear ones, and were subjected to brutal torture during the war. I recall with gratitude our foreign friends who had extended their whole-hearted support and cooperation for the cause of our liberation.

The Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman formally proclaimed the independence of Bangladesh at the first hour of the 26th March 1971. Bangabandhu's proclamation was spread all over the country through telegrams, tele-printers and EPR wireless. The international media also had circulated Bangabandhu's proclamation of independence. Under the brave and dauntless leadership of Bangabandhu, we earned the ultimate victory on the 16th December 1971 after a 9-month bloody war.

The independence earned through supreme sacrifices of millions of people is the greatest achievement of Bangalee nation.



To ensure that this achievement remains meaningful, all have to know the history of our great liberation war and retain the spirit of independence. The spirit of the liberation war has to be passed on to generation to generations.

Being imbued with the spirit of the freedom struggle, the Awami League government has relentlessly been working to

develop the country. We have been accomplishing the unfinished work of the Father of the Nation. We have achieved expected developments in every sector during last 10 years. Bangladesh has become the 'Role Model' of socio-economic development in the world. Our government is maintaining 'zero tolerance' policy to tackle militancy, terrorism and

drug-menace. For the first time in the world, we have formulated a hundred year plan named 'Delta Plan 2100'. Bangladesh is one of the five top countries in the world in economic development. Ninety percent of development work is financed by our own resources. We have executed the verdict of the trial of the killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman establishing the rule of law. The verdicts of the trials of the war criminals are also being executed. The trials of war criminals will be continued as per our pledges to the nation. Due to the continuation of the Awami League government, grassroot people are now getting the dividend of the development. Bangladesh is moving forward and it will continue. The next generation will get a prosperous Bangladesh.

The people made Bangladesh Awami League victorious in the

recent 11th parliamentary elections. We will fully honour the huge mandate that the people of our country have given us. We will turn Bangladesh into a middle income country by 2021 and a developed-prosperous one by 2041, InshaAllah.

Let us come and uphold the development and democratic spree being imbued with the spirit of the freedom struggle. Let us engage ourselves for the welfare of the country and nation. Let us build a hunger-poverty-free and happy-prosperous Sonar Bangladesh as dreamt by Father of the Nation. On the historic day, let this be our commitment.

Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu
May Bangladesh Live Forever.

**Sheikh Hasina
Prime Minister
People's Republic of
Bangladesh**

On the pathway to prosperity

On the occasion of 26th March- the great Independence and National day of Bangladesh, I extend my heartfelt greetings and warm felicitations to all Bangalees living both home and abroad.

On this great historic day, I may recall with profound reverence the greatest Bangalee of

all times, Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, who proclaimed country's independence on March 26, 1971. Under his visionary leadership, we achieved our long cherished independence through a nine-month long armed struggle.

With deep respect, I recall the

supreme sacrifices made by our war heroes, the 3 million martyrs and the wounded freedom fighters. I also pay my profound gratitude to the people from all walks of life and especially the members of our Diaspora and the diplomatic front who, during and after our Liberation War, played a vital role in gain-

ing international recognition. I also acknowledge with deep gratitude the enormous contributions of our foreign friends in the emergence of independent Bangladesh.

The charismatic leadership of the Father of the Nation united the whole nation like a solid rock under one umbrella. Bangabandhu was not only the leader of the Bangalee but also a forerunner in realizing the rights of the oppressed and deprived people of the world. Bangabandhu, the great architect of our Liberation War dreamt of a happy, prosperous, exploitation free and equitable 'Sonar Bangla' (Bengal of Gold). His able successor, his daughter, Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina aims at becoming an upper middle income country by 2021 and developed country by 2041. She hopes to realize Bangabandhu's dream "Sonar Bangla", a prosperous, exploitation free, just and developed Bangladesh.

Now Bangladesh is on a pathway to prosperity. Currently, Bangladesh is marching forward with more than 7.86% GDP growth rate. The number of working women has increased from 6% to 38% in the workforce. Introduction of six months leave, maternity and lactating allowances, establishment of free community clinics are few critical interventions which have lowered maternal mortality by a 67% and infant death by 75%.

In the last ten years, the size of our national budget enlarged about five and half times. On one hand, while Bangladesh is now recognized as a 'Role Model of Development' on the other, it has been steadily achieving successes, earning many



international awards and accolades. As a consequence, the United Nations has recently announced Bangladesh's eligibility for graduation to the status of 'Developing Country' from 'Least Developed Country'. By successful launching of Bangabandhu-1 satellite- the first Bangladeshi geostationary communication satellite, we

have embarked to communication technology to a new height.

I Congratulate all Bangladeshi Diaspora in every corner of the world that are contributing to the escalation of the image of Bangladesh. I thank all the members of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and our Missions abroad who have been working with deep commitment to uphold our national interest across nations.

On this historic day of Independence, let us all vow to transform Bangladesh into a prosperous, technology based, developed Sonar Bangla.

Joy Bangla, Joy Bangabandhu,
May Bangladesh Live Forever.

**Dr. A.K. Abdul Momen, MP
Foreign Minister
People's Republic of
Bangladesh**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

**HEARTIEST CONGRATULATION
& BEST WISHES**

GOVERNMENT OF
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
BANGLADESH
AND
THE EMBASSY OF
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
BANGLADESH
IN THE KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN
AND
ALL THE PEOPLE OF
MY BELOVED COUNTRY
ON THE OCCASION OF

**48th 26 MARCH
BANGLADESH
INDEPENDENCE DAY**

**Mohammed Shafiuddin, CIP
General Manager**

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**BANGLADESH
Warm Wishes on the Grand Occasion
Of Independence Day.**

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