



**BANGLADESH
INDEPENDENCE DAY
26 MARCH**

THE DAILY **tribune**

Let's build a better world

Today is 26 March, Our great Independence and National Day. This is the day of breaking shackles of subjugation; a day of reaching the enlightened world from the abyss of darkness. On this very day in 1971, the Bangalee nation started the War of Liberation.

On this very day, I pay profound reverence to the great hero of the war of independence, the architect of great independence, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman who led his people from the front in various movements and struggles from 1952 Language Movement to the 1971 Liberation War to the greatest achievement of Bengali Nationalism-independent

Bangladesh. With profound love and respect, I recall the supreme sacrifices made by our war heroes, the 3 million martyrs and the wounded freedom fighters.

On this historic moment, I recall the contributions of the officials of the then Foreign Ministry who worked to build public opinion all over the world in response to the clarion call of Bangabandhu during liberation war.

Bangabandhu had a dream of bringing smile in the face of Bangalee people. He wanted to make them free from exploitation, hunger, poverty and subjugation. Daughter of our founding father Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the current



Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina has been leading the development pursuit of Bangladesh. Recently, the people of Bangladesh fortified their support on her with huge public support on the Eleventh General Election. As a result of pragmatic initiatives commenced by the Awami League government, now Bangladesh has been transformed into a trade-dependent country from an aid-dependent one. Currently, Bangladesh is marching forward with US\$ 1,752 per capita income and more than 7.86% growth rate. As a result, Bangladesh has been recognised as a 'Role Model of Development'.

On this auspicious day, I thank all the members of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and our Missions abroad who have been working with sustained dedication and commitment in achieving our foreign policy objectives and promote national interest of Bangladesh on the world stage. Also my heartfelt felicitations go to the Bangladeshi Diaspora who has been contributing unceasingly for the development of our motherland by sending invaluable remittance and brightening the image of Bangladesh globally by practicing Bangla and Bengali culture abroad.

On this glorious day, being imbued with the spirit of our

great Liberation War and with a view to building Bangabandhu's dream of 'Sonar Bangla' (Golden Bengal), let us take a fresh vow to devote ourselves to work from our respective positions in advancing the ongoing development efforts of the present government to strengthen the hands of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and build a better world for our future generations.

Joy Bangla, Joy Bangabandhu.
May Bangladesh Live Forever.

Md. Shahriar Alam, MP
State Minister for Foreign Affairs
People's Republic of Bangladesh

Expanding horizons

On this day, in 1971, Bangladesh proclaimed her independence and through a nine-month bloody struggle, emerged as a sovereign nation on December 16.

This is a rare happy coincidence in the history of Bahrain and Bangladesh that these two brotherly nations came out on the world map as independent nations on the same day and in the same year, December 16, 1971.

This unique commonality has great symbolic importance and provides an extra thread further strengthening the special bond of friendship between our two countries.

Since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1983, Bangladesh and Bahrain have enjoyed an excellent bilateral relationship based on our common values, shared perceptions and common customs and traditions.

Based on the strong foundation of friendship, we have continuously endeavoured to exploit the immense potentials for its further expansion in various sectors.

On this happy occasion of our Independence Day, I would like to convey my sincere greetings to the friendly and brotherly people of Bahrain and beloved Bangladeshi compatriots. We pray for the salvation of the departed souls of valiant freedom fighters who dedicated their lives for our freedom.

The father of our nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the martyrs, the freedom fighters - all dreamt of a prosperous country.

Bangladesh had been recognised as lower Middle Income country way back in 2015. Today, Bangladesh is the 43rd country of the world in terms of size of economy, and 32nd country in terms of purchasing power parity. Our GDP today is 300 billion dollars! According to IMF, Bangladesh will be within the TOP 20 economies by 2040!

Let me briefly share with you where Bangladesh leads globally today :

We are the 2nd largest Ready-Made Garments Exporter of the World, the 2nd Largest troop contributor to the UN Peace Keeping Operation, the 2nd largest Jute producer, the 3rd Fresh water FISH producer, the 3rd in Vegetable production, the 4th in the global Rice Production, the 7th largest producer of Natural gas in Asia, the 9th in the global production of TEA.

Today's Bangladesh takes pride in building the massive and game-changer 6.15 meter long PADMA BRIDGE of 1.2 billion dollars, completely from its own domestic resource! Today's Bangladesh joined as 57th country to the elite group of Satellite owned nations! Today's Bangladesh now expands her sphere from 'Shirt-making' to 'Ship-building' industries! You can imagine, today we export War ships!!! Today's Bangladesh exports medicines to 145 countries!

It is also a matter of pride that in Bangladesh, about 33.5 percent women work in productive



sector. Currently, the contribution of women workforce in our GDP growth is 34 percent. According to Gender Gap Index 2017 by World Economic Forum, Bangladesh stands the 47th out of 144 countries and the 1st in SAARC nations.

One major achievement in Bangladesh is the inclusion of backward and vulnerable section of the society in the economy. It may be noted that social protection system of Bangladesh accounts for 02% of our national budget.

At present 80% people of the country are covered by electricity facilities (including renewable energy). Government of Bangladesh has plan to ensure electricity for all by 2021.

With the help of modern healthcare and improved nutrition available in affordable cost, Bangladesh made remarkable progress in health sector. In the non-urban localities, 18,500 community clinics have been established to provide affordable health care that



With the help of modern healthcare and improved nutrition available in affordable cost, Bangladesh made remarkable progress in health sector. In the non-urban localities, 18,500 community clinics have been established to provide affordable health care that covers about 8000 people per clinic.

MAJOR GENERAL K.M. MOMINUR RAHMAN (RETD)

covers about 8000 people per clinic.

It is a pride of the nation that Bangladesh didn't have to compromise with its humane side in having all these development achievements. Bangladesh has provided temporary shelter to more than one million forcibly displaced Rohingya populations who fled their homeland Myanmar. Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has personally extended her hand in support to these helpless people when they started fleeing atrocities in the Rakhine State in 2017. We are continuing to provide them with shelter and basic services in coordination with the UN and other partners.

At the end recognize deeply and convey my sincere thanks and gratitude, on behalf of the

government and people of Bangladesh, to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, King of the Kingdom of Bahrain, Prime Minister His Royal Highness Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa for extending their generous support and cooperation to me, to my mission and to our community.

Major General K.M. Mominur Rahman (retd)
Ambassador
People's Republic of Bangladesh

**48th Anniversary of
the Independence and National Day**

I E S Alliance

For Management of Industrial Projects W.L.L

**Wishing the
Bangladesh Government
and Community in
Bahrain A Very Happy
48th Independence Day.**

We make biggest Fibreglass Tanks in G.C.C. Countries.



Tel: +973 66677727, Fax: +973 17670432
P.O. Box : 50582, Hidd, Kingdom of Bahrain
sirshahidahmed1@gmail.com