



Embassy of Japan

Press Release

February 8, 2022

Japan and Bangladesh celebrate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations



Japan recognized Bangladesh as a sovereign nation on February 10th 1972, and the year 2022 marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and Bangladesh. On February 8th, the Embassy of Japan in Dhaka and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh co-hosted an event to celebrate this auspicious occasion at the Foreign Service Academy in Dhaka.

The ceremony was attended by H.E. Dr. A K Abdul Momen, Honorable Foreign Minister of Bangladesh as the Chief Guest, Mr. Masud Bin Momen, Foreign Secretary, Mr. Md. Sirazul Islam, Executive Chairman of BIDA, Mr. Shaikh Yusuf Harun, Executive Chairman of BEZA, Maj. Gen. Abul Kalam Mohammad Ziaur Rahman, Executive Chairman of BEPZA, and the representatives of the Japanese Communities in Dhaka.

In the ceremony, video messages from H.E. Mr. KISHIDA Fumio, Prime Minister of Japan and H.E. Sheikh Hasina, Honorable Prime Minister of Bangladesh were delivered. In addition, H.E. Mr. ITO Naoki, Ambassador of Japan to Bangladesh, read out a message from Mr. ASO Taro, President of the Japan-Bangladesh Parliamentary Friendship League, on his behalf.

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'Today, 50 years since that day, I am very pleased to celebrate this milestone with Prime Minister Hasina and the people of Bangladesh. The rapidly developing economy of Bangladesh is an attractive investment destination. Located at the nodal point between Southeast Asia and the Indian subcontinent, Bangladesh is an important partner in realizing a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific". In this year of milestone, I am determined to work with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and the people of Bangladesh even more closely to elevate our bilateral relations to new heights', said Prime Minister H.E. Mr. KISHIDA in his message.

'Our Two countries have been enjoying excellent relations since Bangladesh's independence in 1971 and Japan's early recognition on 10 Feb 1972. Our people remember with gratitude that precious support and contributions of Japan and its people, particularly school children, during our war of liberation. Japan was among the first few countries to open resident diplomatic mission in Dhaka. Bilateral relation is based on mutual trust, respect, friendship, and cooperation. I'm happy today to know that our time-tested friendship evolved in depth and dimension. Bangladesh is firm to engage with time tested friend Japan for mutually beneficial gains' said Honorable Prime Minister H.E. Sheikh Hasina in her message.

The ceremony started with remarks by Ambassador ITO, followed by a speech by Honorable Foreign Minister H.E. Mr. Momen. In the event, there was a ceremony of exchanging recognition documents between Japan and Bangladesh in 1972 and a cultural performance by the artists of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

In this milestone year, Japan looks forward to the new era of Japan-Bangladesh relationship and reassures its readiness to stand by Bangladesh towards more sustainable and prosperous future.

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