



Embassy Newsletter

June 2022



**Embassy of Bangladesh
Tokyo**

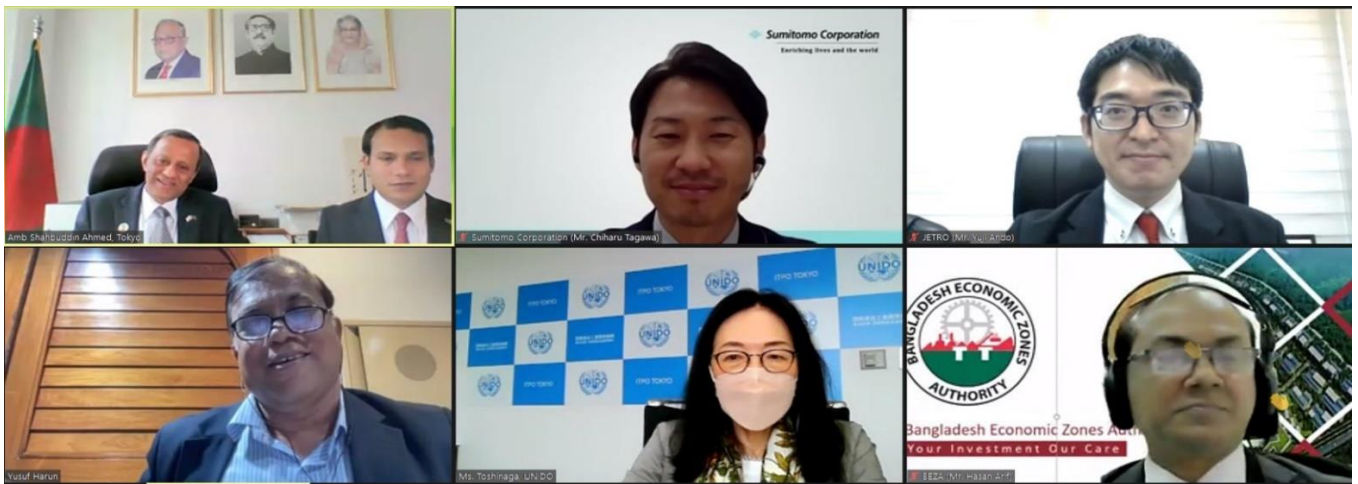


Embassy of Bangladesh Tokyo organized an online seminar on Investment Opportunities in Economic Zones in Bangladesh

Embassy of Bangladesh in Japan, jointly with UNIDO ITPO Tokyo, and the Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (BEZA) organized an online seminar titled “Investment Opportunities in Economic Zones in Bangladesh” on 8 June 2022. The seminar provided the most up-to-date information on the economic and business conditions in Bangladesh, investment opportunities in economic zones in Bangladesh with various incentives including tax exemption.

H.E Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed in his welcome remarks invited Japanese companies to take opportunity to invest in economic zones in Bangladesh. Mr. Yuko Yasunaga, Head of UNIDO ITPO Tokyo delivered opening remarks. Mr. Mohammad Hasan Arif, Joint Secretary & General Manager, BEZA presented on “Investment Opportunities in Economic Zones in

Bangladesh” and Mr. Chiharu Tagawa, Assistant to General Manager, Overseas Industrial Park Department, Sumitomo Corporation delivered presentation on “Bangladesh Special Economic Zone – Project Outline and Current Condition”. Mr. Yuji Ando, Country Representative of Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), Dhaka presented on “Latest Business Environment in Bangladesh”. In the Question & Answer session, Mr. Hasan Arif, GM, BEZA and Dr. Ariful Haque, Minister (Commerce) of the Embassy provided answers to questions raised by the participants. Mr. Shaikh Yusuf Harun, Executive Chairman of BEZA delivered closing remarks. The program was moderated by Ms. Ikuo Toshinaga, Industrial Development Officer of UNIDO, ITPO, Tokyo. Nearly 200 participants attended the program.



H.E Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed delivered welcome remarks in the seminar

Embassy of Bangladesh, Tokyo Organized a seminar in collaboration with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

A seminar has been organized by the Embassy of Bangladesh, Tokyo at the Bangabandhu conference hall

on Friday, 10 June 2022 in collaboration with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). The title of



the seminar was 'JICA with Bangladesh: Reaching 50th Year and Way Forward'. Ms. Fatima Yasmin, Secretary of Economic Relations Division inaugurated the event through video message while Ms. Mari AKIYAMA, Director spoke on behalf of Japanese Foreign Ministry. The keynote speech was delivered by Mr. Junichi YAMADA, Senior Executive Vice President, JICA. Distinguished members of the public sector, industry, academia and civil society participated at the interactive panel discussion. Theme of the panel was 'Expectations pertaining to JICA's future cooperation with Bangladesh'. H.E. Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Japan delivered the concluding remarks.

While looking back on the cooperation with JICA so far, the speakers at the seminar explored ways to further strengthen the partnership in the future. They said reaching 50th year of JICA's cooperation with Bangladesh is a significant milestone. Over the years Japan has been the single largest bilateral development partner of Bangladesh. The dream of Father of the Nation of Bangladesh Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur

Rahman to build 'Sonar Bangla' or 'Golden Bengal' is being realized by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's government. Since her visit to Japan in 2014, when the relationship between Bangladesh and Japan was upgraded to 'Comprehensive Partnership', the financial and technical assistance of Japan has been significantly increased. Especially under the Bay of Bengal Industrial Growth Belt (BIG-B) initiative, JICA's support in infrastructure, transportation, power, and energy sectors is complementing Government's endeavors. JICA also continues to cooperate in social sectors, such as health, agriculture, and disaster management. On the occasion of reaching the milestone of 50th year of cooperation between JICA and Bangladesh, the speakers at the seminar expected the collaboration to grow stronger and diversified in the next 50 years. They suggested continuous dialogue as a mechanism for effective, efficient, and sustainable implementation of projects and programs.

Syed Nasir Ershad, Economic Minister of the Mission was the moderator of the seminar.



H.E. Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Japan delivered the concluding remarks



Participants of the seminar



Embassy of Bangladesh, Tokyo Japan organized Bangladesh-Japan IT Business Collaboration Networking event

Embassy of Bangladesh, Tokyo Japan organized Bangladesh-Japan IT Business Collaboration Networking event on 14th June 2022 at Embassy’s Bangabandhu Auditorium. H.E Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed delivered welcome remarks and urged the Japanese IT companies to explore business opportunity in Bangladesh and recruit skilled IT professionals from Bangladesh as Bangladesh Government is offering various facilities and supports to the Investors in the IT sector such as Tax benefits, one stop service etc. in High-Tech Parks. He also assured all possible support form embassy to start business in Bangladesh.

Emphasizing the export of ICT and digital devices and diversification of export products, Honorable Prime Minister, Sheikh Hasina declared ‘ICT Products and Services’ as ‘National Product of the Year 2022’. The event was organized with a view to promote Bangladesh’s ICT industry in Japan as part of celebrations of Bangladesh-Japan 50 years of diplomatic relation this year. Officials from Government entities

like Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), Embassy Officials as well as other agencies like United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDIDO) ITPO Tokyo, Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industries (JCCI) actively participated.

Top level Executives from Japanese IT Companies, NRB established IT companies in Japan, Bangladeshi IT professional working in prominent Japanese companies, Bangladeshi researchers in Japan in this field also participated. In the interactive discussion session, they provided valuable suggestions and opinions for taking forward Bangladesh-Japan IT business Collaboration further to strengthen and deepen bilateral relation between Bangladesh and Japan.

Dr. Ariful Haque, Minister (Commerce) of the Embassy delivered presentation on Bangladesh-Japan IT Business Collaboration and moderated the program. The event was supported by UNIDO ITPO Tokyo and NRB established IT companies in Japan.



H.E Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed delivered welcome remarks



Participants of the event



Delegation of University of Hyogo visited the Embassy

A delegation of University of Hyogo, a public university in Kobe, visited the Embassy on 17 June 2022 and met H.E. Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed. The delegation led by the Executive Vice President and Professor Emeritus, Mr. Makoto KOSAKA and International Student Coordinator, Mr. Kenji Goto was interested to collaborate more with Bangladeshi universities and to promote the university to prospective Bangladeshi

students for admission. At present 9 (nine) Bangladeshi students are studying at the undergraduate and graduate level programmes in the university. From the Embassy, Deputy Chief of Mission, Mr. Shah Asif Rahman; Economic Minister, Syed Nasir Ershad and Counsellor, Sheikh Farid attended the meeting. Ambassador Shahabuddin assured all possible cooperation from the Embassy



A delegation of University of Hyogo, a public university in Kobe, visited the Embassy

H.E Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed attended and delivered remarks in 5th Japan Construction International Awards Ceremony

H.E Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed attended and delivered remarks in 5th Japan Construction International Awards Ceremony held on 17 June 2022. Among the awardees, Sugie Seito Co. Ltd. has been awarded in the SMEs Category for their ceramic perforated duct for cable protection which was implemented in Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Mr. NAGAHASHI Kazuhisa, Director-General, Real Estate and Construction, Economy Bureau, Ministry of Land,

Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism. Dr. MORICHI Shigeru, Chairman of the Award Committee, Excellencies Ambassadors of Countries of award-winning projects, awardee companies were present. H.E Ambassador also had a meeting with H.E. Mr. SAITO Tetsuo, Hon'ble Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Japan. Honourable Minister looks forward to successful arrangement of 5th PPP Joint



Platform Meeting in Tokyo next month. H.E Ambassador thanked the Honourable Minister for Japan’s contribution

to Bangladesh’s economic development by mobilizing skills and experiences of Japanese private companies in infrastructure sector.



H.E Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed attended and delivered remarks in 5th Japan Construction International Awards Ceremony

H.E. Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Japan delivered a lecture to the students at Josai International University (JIU) and held a meeting with its President

H.E. Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Japan held a meeting with Mr. Kenji SUGIBAYASHI, President of Josai International University (JIU) at the latter’s office on 21 June 2022. Mr. Sugibayashi thanked the Ambassador for his kind visit to the university and they discussed issues of mutual interest. There are six graduate schools under JIU. Currently there was only one student of Bangladesh studying in the Graduate School of Management and Information Sciences. The Ambassador expressed hope that the number of students from Bangladesh in JIU will increase in future.

Among other issues, Mr. Sugibayashi informed that JIU will host Asia Summer Program (ASP) from 25 July to 1 August 2022. ASP is an international summer program focusing on topics relevant to Asia. This year it will be held fully online. The theme for ASP 2022 is ‘On the path to inclusion, diversity and understanding’ and the aim is

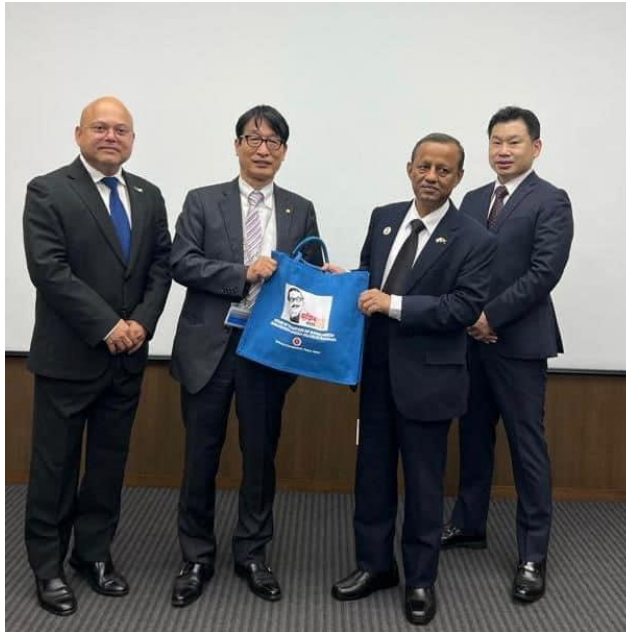
to foster future leaders with a strong understanding of Asian cultures, a broad and creative mindset, and a talent for international collaboration. Undergraduate and graduate students from the original five universities of Japan (Josai International University - host), Thailand (Bangkok University), Korea (Dongseo University), Indonesia (Petra University), Malaysia (Universiti Malaysia Perlis) that started the program, as well as China (Guangdong University of Foreign Studies) will participate in the weeklong summer program. The Ambassador expressed willingness to support their initiative and offered to arrange students of Bangladeshi university to participate at this online Asia Summer Program 2022. He also proposed to work together between the Embassy and the university to explore new areas of cooperation for the mutual benefit of the academic sector of both Bangladesh and Japan. The Ambassador was accompanied by Mr. Syed Nasir Ershad,



Economic Minister of the Embassy while the President was supported by Professor Takekuni KUROSAWA at the meeting.

Earlier, on 16 June 2022, Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed delivered a lecture to the students of JIU on the topic of 'Bangladesh-Japan Partnership: Looking forward

to the future'. Economic Minister Syed Nasir Ershad supported him as co-lecturer. The session continued for about two hours and generated much interest among the students which was evident during the question & answer segment.



H.E. Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Japan held a meeting with Mr. Kenji SUGIBAYASHI, President of Josai International University (JIU)

Ambassador Shahabuddin Ahmed delivered a lecture to the students of JIU on the topic of 'Bangladesh-Japan Partnership: Looking forward to the future'.

Bangladesh Seminar on Trade, Investment and Skilled Human Resources held in Saitama, Japan

Bangladesh Embassy, Tokyo organized "Bangladesh Seminar on Trade, Investment and Skilled Human Resources" on 22 June 2022 at Omiya Sonic Civic Hall in Saitama City. Nearly 200 participants from Japanese companies and manpower recruiting organizations were present at the event. H.E Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed in his welcome speech, urged Japanese businessmen and investors to invest in various sectors in Bangladesh such as information technology, garment industry, leather etc. He also highlighted Japan's involvement in various mega projects in Bangladesh and

thanked the Japan Government for continuous support. In the context of the decreasing population in Japan, the Ambassador urged Japan's manpower recruiting agencies to recruit skilled workers from Bangladesh. From the City of Saitama, Mr. Hitoshi Shibuya, Director, Department of Commerce, Industry, and Tourism, Bureau of Economic Affairs was present and delivered speech.

Dr. Ariful Haque, Minister (Commerce) of the Embassy delivered a presentation on trade and investment opportunities in Bangladesh and Md. Zoynal Abedin, First Secretary (Labour), of the Embassy presented on the



“Prospects and Potentials of Skilled Human Resources in Bangladesh: Collaboration with Japan for Greater Mutual Benefit” Mr. Noriyoshi Fukuoka, Director (South Asia), Trade Policy Bureau, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) praised Bangladesh’s economic progress and prospects, Mr. Yuji Ando, Country Representative, JETRO Bangladesh discussed business environment in Bangladesh through recorded video message. Mr. Toshihiro Shimizu, from JICA presented on JICA’s business supporting survey in Bangladesh and Mr. Kiminobu Hiraishi, CEO of Maruhisha Group shared business experiences of Japanese Textile Companies in Bangladesh. Ambassador Shigeo Matsutomi, Senior Vice President, Japan International Trainee & Skilled Worker

Cooperation Organization (JITCO) discussed on Sending / Acceptance Structure of Bangladeshi Trainees & Workers and Mr. Keisuke Irako, Chief Director, Machida Hospital shared experiences of recruiting Bangladeshi Care Givers in his hospital. The seminar was attended by embassy officials, officials, and representatives from METI, JICA, JETRO, Japan Chamber, UNIDO ITPO Tokyo, among others. The seminar was organized as part of celebrating 50 years of Bangladesh-Japan diplomatic relations and was supported by the City of Saitama, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), Saitama, UNIDO-ITPO Tokyo, and JITCO.



H.E Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed delivered welcome speech



Participants of the seminar

The Embassy of Bangladesh, Tokyo celebrated the Opening Ceremony of Padma Bridge

The Embassy of Bangladesh, Tokyo celebrated the Opening Ceremony of Padma Bridge today (25 June 2022) with due fervor and festivity. With a view to observing the event in a befitting manner, the Embassy organized a “Celebration of Padma Bridge Opening” program at the Bangabandhu hall of Bangladesh Embassy, Tokyo. Significant number of expatriates of Bangladesh, all embassy officers, officials, and their family members attended the event.

The day’s program started with presenting a documentary on Padma Bridge which was followed by welcome remark of H.E. Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed,

Ambassador of Bangladesh to Japan. The Ambassador said that the construction of 6.15 km long Padma Bridge has been possible only for Hon’ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The Ambassador also said, Padma Bridge is a symbol of Bangladesh’s economic strength & confidence. Constructing Padma Bridge with our own money has strengthened our self-confidence and upheld our image in the international arena as a courageous nation, he added.

After this, the Messages issued by Hon’ble President and Hon’ble Prime Minister on the occasion were read out by Economic Minister, Syed Nasir Ershad and Head of



Chancery, Sheikh Farid respectively. In the last segment of the event, all guests enjoyed the Opening Program of Padma Bridge at a big screen inside the hall room live telecasted from the inaugural venue. The theme song of Padma Bridge was played immediately after the inauguration of Padma Bridge by Hon'ble Prime

Minister. All invited guests from Bangladesh community members expressed their deep satisfaction and paid their gratitude to Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for her courageous step to build the longest bridge of the country over the most furious and mightiest river in the world.



H.E. Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Japan delivered welcome remark



Expatriates of Bangladesh attended the program

Embassy of Bangladesh, Tokyo Japan organized an online seminar on “Recruitment of Technical Interns and Specified Skilled Workers (SSW) by Japan: Potentials and Challenges for Bangladesh”

Embassy of Bangladesh, Tokyo Japan organized an online seminar on “Recruitment of Technical Interns and Specified Skilled Workers (SSW) by Japan: Potentials and Challenges for Bangladesh” on 27 June 2022.

H.E. Ambassador Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed, Secretary, Ministry of Expatriates’ Welfare and Overseas Employment Dr. Ahmed Munirus Saleheen, Director General, Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training (BMET), other high officials of the Embassy and Ministry, and the representatives of different sending organizations including BOESL approved for sending manpower to Japan attended the seminar. At the beginning, H.E. ambassador delivered his welcome speech. Then, the Keynote presentation was made by Mr. Shaidul Hoque, Supervisor SWEIC, supervising

organization. The seminar was addressed by Secretary of the Ministry of Expatriates’ Welfare and Overseas Employment and Director General, BMET. Other official and Representatives of the sending organizations also gave their valuable opinions during open discussion. H.E. ambassador urged all concerned to work sincerely and make a concerted effort for utilizing the opportunities of high-demanding labor market in Japan for the aspirant migrants of Bangladesh. All other speakers put emphasis on providing well-planned and organized training for the aspirant migrants regarding Japanese Language and different Job-related Skills to send substantial number of Technical Intern and Specified Skilled Workers to Japan. The secretary of the Ministry assured the sending organizations of all out



support from the Ministry and requested them to work dynamically in association with the Ministry, BMET, Labour Welfare Wing of the Embassy of Bangladesh,

Tokyo, and other relevant organizations of Japan. Md. Zoynal Abedin, First Secretary (Labour) moderated the seminar on behalf of the embassy.



Participants of the seminar

