

# Embassy of Nepal, Dhaka

April 2025 Volume-3/ Issue-1

## Inside this Issue:

- Bilateral Exchanges
- Nepali Army Day-2025 Celebration
- Ambassador's Engagements in Various Events
- Visits and Outreach Programmes of the Embassy
- Economic Diplomacy and Public Diplomacy Programmes
- Highlights of Embassy's Other Activities and Engagements
- Consular Activities
- Media Coverage and Important Links



For more news and updates, visit our website at https://bd.nepalembassy.gov.np/ or follow us at https://www.facebook.com/embofnepalindhaka

## Bilateral Exchanges

## Ambassador Calls on the Foreign Affairs Adviser

Ambassador Mr. Ghanshyam Bhandari called on Adviser for Foreign Affairs of the Interim Government of Bangladesh H.E. Mr. Md. Touhid Hossain on 11 March 2025, and handed over to him the original copy of the invitation letter from Minister for Foreign Affairs Hon. Dr. Arzu Rana Deuba inviting him to attend the first edition of *Sagarmatha Sambaad* scheduled to be held in Kathmandu from 16-18 May 2025.



(Ambassador Mr. Ghanshyam Bhandari with Foreign Adviser H.E. Md. Touhid Hossain)

On the occasion, Ambassador Mr. Bhandari underscored that the *Sagarmatha Sambaad* was a flagship initiative of the Government of Nepal established to deliberate on pertinent issues of regional and global importance and that its first edition would be held under the theme 'climate change, mountains and the future of humanity'.

On the occasion, they also took stock of the recent positive achievements made towards strengthening energy cooperation between the two countries. The Adviser acknowledged that while the initiation of the transaction of 40 MW of hydroelectricity was small in volume, it held a symbolic significance as it marked the first-ever energy cooperation at the sub-regional level. Views were exchanged on accelerating efforts to better realize mutual benefits from the regional and sub-regional frameworks including SAARC, BIMSTEC and BBIN.

## Ambassador's Meeting with Adviser for Commerce

On 23 February 2025, Ambassador Mr. Ghanshyam Bhandari met with Adviser for Commerce of Bangladesh H.E. Mr. Sk. Bashir Uddin.



(Ambassador Mr. Bhandari with Adviser for Commerce H.E. Mr. Sk. Bashir Uddin)

They exchanged views on the trade linkages between Nepal and Bangladesh, noting their gradual but steady growth. The Ambassador shed light on the promises and potential existing in the areas of trade and investment and underscored ways to tap on them.



(Embassy officials during the courtesy call on the Adviser for Commerce)

over the Ambassador

Adviser Mr. Uddin expressed satisfaction over the excellent state of bilateral relations and stressed the importance of an enhanced level of economic collaboration between Nepal and Bangladesh, particularly to expand bilateral trade linkages.

## Ambassador's Meeting with Adviser for Environment, Forest and Climate Change

On 20 March 2025, Ambassador Mr. Ghanshyam Bhandari met with Adviser for Environment, Forest and Climate Change of Bangladesh H.E. Ms. Syeda Rizwana Hasan.

The Ambassador apprised the Adviser that the 40 MW electricity export deal signed during the latter's visit to Nepal in October 2024 was successfully implemented. He emphasized that while the power volume was modest, it represented significant potential for regional cooperation in the power sector.



(Ambassador Mr. Bhandari with Adviser for Environment, Forest and Climate Change)

Ambassador Mr. Bhandari handed over to her a copy of the invitation letter from Minister for Forests and Environment of Nepal Hon. Mr. Ain Bahadur Shahi Thakuri inviting her to attend the first edition of Sagarmatha Sambaad scheduled to be held in Kathmandu from 16-18 May 2025.

The Adviser appreciated the initiative of the Government of Nepal and responded positively to the invitation.

## Ambassador's Meeting with Adviser for Cultural Affairs

On 14 January, Ambassador Mr. Ghanshyam Bhandari met with Hon. Mr. Mostofa Sarwar Farooki, Adviser for Cultural Affairs. Ambassador Mr. Bhandari emphasized the strong foundation of trust and mutual respect in Nepal-Bangladesh relations, highlighting significant cultural commonalities and close people-to-people ties.



(Ambassador Mr. Bhandari with Adviser for Cultural Affairs)

Adviser Mr. Farooki, referring to his past visits to Nepal, shared about his participation as jury of Nepali film festivals, and his friendship with many Nepali filmmakers. He further emphasized the importance of friendly relations within the current geopolitical landscape and expressed satisfaction with the close ties and shared cultural heritage between Nepal and Bangladesh.

Adviser Mr. Farooki also referred to the Cultural Agreement between Nepal and Bangladesh signed in 2021. Ambassador Mr. Bhandari shed light on the importance of prioritizing the cultural and historical linkages between the two countries highlighting the significant potential for research on the linguistic similarities between Nepali and Bangla languages.

#### Ambassador's Meeting with Energy Secretary

On 6 March, Ambassador Mr. Ghanshyam Bhandari met with Ms. Farzana Mamtaz, Power Secretary, Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources. They took stock of the progress made in power trade between Nepal and Bangladesh and stressed the need to work expeditiously to further strengthen bilateral energy cooperation.



(Embassy officials with Power Secretary Ms. Farzana Mamtaz)

Dubbing the 40 MW power deal as a historic agreement enabling the first ever power transaction among the three countries, the Ambassador contended that it could serve as a springboard for future energy cooperation in the sub-region. The Secretary echoed the similar sentiments and stated that her side was willing to work to further consolidate power trade between Nepal and Bangladesh.

## **Bangladesh's Independence Day/National Day** Celebrations

Chargé D'affaires a.i. Ms. Yojana Bamjan participated in various events held on 26 March to mark the Independence Day/National Day of Bangladesh.

Ms. Bamjan attended the celebration held in Savar, Dhaka during which President Mohammed Sahabuddin and Chief Adviser Prof. Dr. Muhammad Yunus paid tribute to the martyrs of the Liberation War and freedom fighters by placing wreaths at the National Martyrs' Monument. Ms. Bamjan also attended a reception followed by iftar hosted by President Mohammed Sahabuddin at Bangabhaban to mark the Independence Day/ National Day of Bangladesh.



(Ms. Bamjan greeting the President of Bangladesh)

During the event, Ms. Bamjan had an opportunity to greet the President personally and convey to him the greetings and best wishes from Rt. Hon. President and Rt. Hon. Prime Minister of Nepal.

#### **Eid-ul-Fitr Celebration**

Chargé D'affaires a.i. Ms. Yojana Bamjan attended a reception hosted by the President of Bangladesh at Bangabhaban on 31 March to exchange Eid greetings on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr 2025. The same day, she also attended separate Eid receptions hosted by the Chief Adviser of Bangladesh at Ganobhaban.



(Ms. Bamjan with the Chief Adviser of Bangladesh and other HoMs)

On both occasions, Ms. Bamjan had the opportunity to greet the President and the Chief

Adviser personally and convey to them the Eid greetings on behalf of Rt. Hon. President and Rt. Hon. Prime Minister of Nepal.

#### Nepali Army Day-2025 Celebration

On 24 February 2025, the Embassy hosted a reception to mark the 262nd Raising Day of Nepali Army at the Embassy premises.



(Ambassador Mr. Bhandari and Military Attaché Mr. Khatri with Chief of the Army Staff of Bangladesh)

Speaking on the occasion, Ambassador Mr. Ghanshyam Bhandari stated that the day served as a reminder of the unwavering dedication, loyalty, and service of the Nepali Army towards Nepal and Nepali people. While highlighting the military cooperation between Nepal and Bangladesh, he expressed confidence that such cooperation would contribute to further consolidating the friendly bilateral ties.

In his welcome remarks, Military Attaché Colonel Anjan Keshar Khatri highlighted the role of the Nepali Army in safeguarding Nepal's sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity. He also shed light on the Nepali Army's contributions to Nepal's socio-economic development as well as on their role in maintaining international peace and security through UN peacekeeping.



(Guests attending Nepali Army Day Celebration)

Chief Guest of the event, Chief of the Army Staff of Bangladesh Army General Waker-Uz-Zaman commended the wide-ranging efforts of the Nepali Army both at home and abroad. He emphasized the longstanding and friendly relations between the armed forces of Nepal and Bangladesh and stressed the importance of military cooperation as a key component of bilateral relationship.



(Chief of the Army Staff of Bangladesh Army General Waker-Uz-Zaman delivering his remarks)

Several guests including government officials, ambassadors and heads of mission, high-ranking officers from the armed forces of Bangladesh, defence attaches, members of the diplomatic corps, business leaders, and representatives from the Nepali community in Bangladesh were present on the occasion.

#### Ambassador's Engagements in Various Events

## Ambassador's Lecture at the Asian University for Women

On 16 January, Ambassador Mr. Bhandari delivered a lecture on "Evolution of Nepal's Foreign Policy and Nepal-Bangladesh Relations" at the Asian University for Women in Chittagong. He outlined the evolution of Nepal's foreign policy, highlighted key aspects of Nepal-Bangladesh relations, and shared his reflections on regional cooperation in South Asia.



(Ambassador Mr. Bhandari delivering his lecture)

The Ambassador underscored that the principles of *Panchsheel*, UN Charter, Non-alignment, international law and norms of world peace as the overarching guideposts of Nepal's foreign policy and stated that its diplomatic engagements were guided by two major objectives of promoting Nepal's credentials as an independent, democratic, and peaceful nation, and pursuing its development imperatives.

Speaking on Nepal-Bangladesh relations, he highlighted three key drivers of the dynamic partnership: strong bonds of true neighborliness; economic cooperation in trade, energy, tourism, transit, and connectivity; and deep-rooted cultural ties and people-to-people connections.

Reflecting on the regional cooperation in South Asia, Ambassador Mr. Bhandari spoke briefly about collaboration within SAARC, BIMSTEC, and BBIN. He emphasized the importance of enhancing regional connectivity to ensure mutual benefits for the people of both Nepal and Bangladesh. During the Q&A session, he responded to questions of the participants on various aspects of Nepal-Bangladesh relations and regional cooperation.

## Ambassador Addresses the Event 'Mastering Dreams, Conquering Heights'

On 17 February 2025, Ambassador Mr. Ghanshyam Bhandari addressed an event organized by Mastercard Bangladesh to felicitate the five mountaineers of the first-ever all-women expedition team of Bangladesh, which scaled three mountain peaks in the Langtang region of Nepal in December 2024.

The expedition team led under the theme 'Sultana's Dream Unbound' by Nishat Majumder, first Bangladeshi woman who summitted Mt. Everest in 2012, included Yasmin Lisa, Arpita Debnath, Mousumi Akhtar Ap, and Tahura Sultana Rekha.



(Ambassador Mr. Bhandari delivering his remarks)

Congratulating the mountaineers on their historic accomplishment, the Ambassador stated that they had succeeded not only in conquering heights but also in breaking barriers and pushing limits. He stressed that their success was a true translation into action the crux of Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain 'Sultana's Dream', a seminal text of Bengali

Volume-3

Issue-1

feminist literature written in 1905, which underpinned the expedition motive.



(Guests and women mountaineers attending the event)

Ambassador Mr. Bhandari emphasized their achievement as an example of how women lead adventures not just for themselves, but as role models for all women in their society and beyond. He further underlined that the expeditions like that would contribute significantly to bringing the peoples of Nepal and Bangladesh closer.

On the occasion, the Ambassador also highlighted the impact of climate change on mountain ecosystems and stressed the need to work together and faster to preserve and protect the entire Himalayan range.

#### **Peace Gold Award Ceremony**

On 23 February, Ambassador Mr. Bhandari visited Dharmarjika Buddhist Monastery in Dhaka and attended the 'Peace Gold Award Ceremony' organized by the Bangladesh Bouddha Kristi Prachar Sangha (BBKPS).

The Ambassador congratulated the recipients of the prestigious peace award, dedicated to the memory of the distinguished Buddhist scholars and philosophers from Bangladesh. He also commended the efforts of BBKPS in promoting the teachings of Lord Buddha and the principles of Buddhism in Bangladesh and in South Asia region.



(Ambassador Mr. Bhandari addressing the gathering)

Ambassador Mr. Bhandari reflected on the teachings of Lord Buddha and expressed that Nepal takes immense pride in its rich Buddhist heritage, spanning centuries. He highlighted how Lumbini, the birthplace of Lord Buddha, is revered as a "fountain of peace," attracting growing numbers of tourists, pilgrims, and scholars from around the world.



(Guests and attendees at the Peace Gold Award Ceremony)

The Ambassador also shed light on Atish Dipankar's connection with Nepal underlining his crucial role in spreading Buddhism in Nepal and beyond. He also highlighted the Buddhist tradition as a fundamental connecting thread for Nepal and Bangladesh promoting cultural exchange, historical understanding and religious harmony.

#### Saraswati Puja Celebrations

On 3 February, Ambassador Mr. Bhandari participated in the Saraswati Puja celebration organized by Officers' Club of Dhaka.

Exchanging greetings on the occasion, he emphasized the importance of the festival as a beautiful reminder of the close cultural ties connecting Nepal and Bangladesh.



(Ambassador Mr. Bhandari delivering his remarks at the Saraswati Puja celebration)

In his remarks, the Ambassador highlighted the festival's significance as a powerful symbol of the strong cultural bonds and shared heritage between Nepal and Bangladesh.



(Ambassador Mr. Bhandari with other guests)

Ambassador Mr. Bhandari further noted that celebrating Saraswati Puja strengthens the bonds of friendship between the two countries. He expressed his hope that the festival would continue to promote cultural harmony between the Nepali and Bangladeshi peoples.

#### Economic Diplomacy Programmes

## Event on Nepal-Bangladesh Economic Cooperation

The Embassy organized an 'Event on Nepal-Bangladesh Economic Cooperation' in Chittagong on 16 January. The event aimed at promoting connections with the business community and strengthening broader economic engagements between Nepal and Bangladesh.

The event brought together representatives of various Chambers of Commerce and Industries and business organizations, prominent business leaders, and media persons based in Chittagong attended the event.



(Ambassador Mr. Bhandari delivering his remarks at the event)

Addressing the Ambassador Mr. event. Ghanshyam Bhandari noted the increasing momentum of economic engagements and appreciated the crucial role of the business community in Chittagong in further strengthening trade and investment linkages.

The Ambassador urged them to forge meaningful partnerships with the private sector of Nepal. He also called upon the business leaders based in Chittagong to invest in Nepal in priority sectors including hydropower, health, and infrastructure sectors.

Deputy Chief of Mission Ms. Lalita Silwal made a presentation highlighting the key areas of

economic cooperation with a focus on trade, transit and connectivity, energy, and tourism, among others.



(DCM Ms. Silwal making a presentation at the event)

Speaking on the occasion, Administrator of Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry Mr. Muhammad Anwar Pasha underscored the need to enhance economic engagements between the business communities of the two countries.



(Guests attending the event)

## IBN CEO's Meeting with BIDA Acting Chairman

On 28 January, a six-member delegation from the Investment Board Nepal (IBN) led by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Mr. Sushil Gyewali had a meeting with Dr. Khandoker Azizul Islam, Acting Chairman (Additional Secretary) of Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA).

During the meeting, views were exchanged on promoting collaboration between IBN and BIDA,

including exchange of officials and learning from each other's experience.

CEO of IBN Mr. Gyewali emphasized the friendly and strong bilateral relations between Nepal and Bangladesh, underscoring the importance of maintaining closer ties.



(IBN delegation with BIDA team)

Dr. Islam stated that the two countries should explore collaboration opportunities in the field of pharmaceuticals, plastics, home appliances, furniture, leather goods, IT and software solutions, and food processing.

#### **Programme on Trade and Investment Linkages**

The Embassy organized a programme on promoting "Trade and Investment Linkages between Nepal and Bangladesh" at the Embassy premises on 29 January.

The programme was organized in connection with the visit of Chief Executive Officer of Investment Board of Nepal Mr. Sushil Gyewali who led a delegation comprising officials of the Office of Investment Board Nepal, Department of Industry, Special Economic Zone Authority, and Industrial Districts Management Limited. The objective of the event was to explore ways to enhance economic partnerships between Nepal and Bangladesh's public and private sectors.

In his welcome remarks, Ambassador Mr.

Ghanshyam Bhandari highlighted the growing economic engagements between Nepal and Bangladesh and shed light on the progress achieved in sectors such as trade, connectivity, energy, and tourism, among others.



(Ambassador Mr. Bhandari delivering his welcome remarks)

Speaking as the Special Guest, Chief Executive Officer of Investment Board Nepal Mr. Sushil Gyewali, made a presentation on Nepal's investment climate, opportunities, and priority sectors. He outlined Nepal's strategic initiatives to create a conducive environment to attract foreign direct investment and elaborated investment opportunities in priority sectors such as energy, tourism, agriculture, information and communication technology, urban infrastructure, health, manufacturing, and mines and minerals.



CEO Mr. Sushil Gyewali during his presentation on Nepal's investment climate)

Acting Chairman/Executive Member of Bangladesh Investment Development Authority

(BIDA) Dr. Khandoker Azizul Islam discussed Bangladesh's investment priorities and expressed commitment to work together with Nepal to strengthen investment ties in mutually beneficial areas.



(Participants at the Roundtable event)

Chairman of the National Bank Ltd. and former president of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) Mr. Abdul Awal Mintoo shared his perspectives on doing business in Nepal and underlined the need to consolidate economic ties between the two countries.

During an interactive session, CEO Mr. Sushil Gyewali and Ambassador Mr. Ghanshyam Bhandari responded to the concerns and queries of the participants.

### **Tourism Promotion and Networking Event**

9 January, the Embassy organized a On programme on 'Promotion of Nepal-Bangladesh Ties'. Tourism Several guests including representatives of Tour Operators Association of Bangladesh (TOAB), Association of Travel Agents of Bangladesh (ATAB), Pacific Asia Association Travel (PATA), Bangladesh Outbound Tour Operators Association (BOTOA) and various travel agencies and tour operators were among the participants at the event.

Volume-3

Issue-1



(Guests attending the tourism promotion and networking event)

Speaking on the occasion, Ambassador Mr. Ghanshyam Bhandari appreciated the crucial role played by travel agencies and tour operators in strengthening tourism linkages between Nepal and Bangladesh.



(Ambassador Mr. Bhandari delivering his remarks)

Expressing satisfaction over the increasing trends of Bangladeshi tourists visiting Nepal in recent years, he urged the participants to continue building robust partnerships with their partners in Nepal.

DCM Ms. Lalita Silwal made a presentation showcasing Nepal's touristic potential and providing insights into tourism and people-topeople ties between the two countries.



(DCM Ms. Silwal making a presentation)

## Interaction with Bangladeshi nationals of Nepali Origin

Ambassador Mr. Bhandari had a brief interaction with a group of Bangladeshi nationals of Nepali origin led by Mr. Manoj Bahadur Gurkha at the Rangamati Circuit House on 17 January. The Ambassador appreciated the efforts of 'Gurkha Community' made towards the preservation of Nepali culture and language in Bangladesh.

During the interaction, Mr. Gurkha shared his ongoing efforts to protect and preserve Nepali culture, language and heritage in Bangladesh, noting the migration of Nepalis from various regions of Nepal during the British rule and their settlement in and around Rangamati.



(Ambassador Mr. Bhandari with Bangladeshi nationals of Nepali origin)

The Ambassador highlighted the community's role in strengthening Nepal-Bangladesh people-topeople ties, encouraging continued promotion of Nepal and Nepali people's goodwill in Bangladesh.

## **Public Diplomacy Events**

## **Painting Competition-2025**

The Embassy, in collaboration with the Bangladesh-Nepal Friendship Society, organized a 'Painting Competition' among school-level students at the Central Shaheed Minar in Dhaka on 24 January.



(Ambassador Mr. Bhandari welcoming the participants at the Painting Competition-2025)

The Competition was held under the theme "Nepal Through My Eyes", with an objective of providing a platform for participating students to creatively express their unique perspectives on Nepal through their artworks while celebrating the bonds of friendship between Nepal and Bangladesh.



(Young students participating in the Painting Competition)

As he inaugurated the Competition, Ambassador Mr. Ghanshyam Bhandari appreciated the students for participation and encouraged them to bring their ideas of Nepal to life on canvas through their unique artistic expressions.



(Participants showcasing their artworks at the Painting Competition)

Underscoring that art serves as a powerful medium to foster cross-cultural understanding and bring societies together, the Ambassador urged the young artists to continue unleashing their potential.

President of Bangladesh-Nepal Friendship Society Mr. Moshiur Ahmed welcomed the participants of the Competition. Over 350 students from 91 schools in Dhaka took part in the Competition. The participants were categorized into two age categories: 6-10 years and 11-16 years.



(Embassy officials with BNFS team and Bangladesh Scout volunteers)

Four winners as well as 10 best artworks from each category were selected by an eminent panel of judges.

## Literary Exchange and Prize Distribution Ceremony

The Embassy organized a 'Literary Exchange and Prize Distribution Ceremony' in collaboration with the Bangladesh-Nepal Friendship Society (BNFS) on 25 February 2025.



(Embassy team with winners of the Painting Competition-2025)

The event featured the presentation of literary papers, recitation of poems, and critiques on the cultural and linguistic similarities between Nepal and Bangladesh. The winners of the 'Painting Competition- 2025' held on 24 January 2025 under the theme 'Nepal Through My Eyes' were also felicitated.



(Guests and dignitaries attending the event)

Speaking on the occasion, Ambassador Mr. Ghanshyam Bhandari highlighted the cultural linkages between Nepal and Bangladesh and stressed the importance of literary exchanges in further consolidating people-to-people contacts. He also appreciated the artworks of the students and stated that their creative pieces would be instrumental in fostering cross-cultural understanding and bringing our societies together.

Chief Guest of the event, Adviser for Cultural Affairs of the Government of Bangladesh H.E. Mr. Mostofa Sarwar Farooki commended the Embassy's efforts of public diplomacy aimed at promoting the ties between the two countries. He also shed light on the strong linguistic, literary and cultural similarities that lie at the core of Nepal-Bangladesh friendship.



(Adviser for Cultural Affairs H.E. Mr. Farooki addressing the event)

Chairperson of the Nepal Creative Writers' Society Mr. Shreeom Shrestha presented a paper on 'Nepali Literature and Culture in the Present Context' and Mr. Mojaffor Hossain from Bangla Academy presented a paper on 'Literature of Bangladesh: An Epitome of Struggles and Creativity'. Creative writers from Nepal and Bangladesh recited their poems and creative pieces.



(Dignitaries unveiling the Painting Catalogue)

On the occasion, a special publication featuring twenty artworks selected from the Painting Competition was unveiled.

## International Mother Language Day Celebration

On the occasion of Martyr's Day and International Mother Language Day 2025, Ambassador Mr. Bhandari joined President Mohammed Shahabuddin and Chief Adviser Prof. Dr. Muhammad Yunus in paying homage to the language martyrs by placing wreaths at the Central Shaheed Minar in Dhaka at one minute past midnight on 21 February 2025.



(Embassy family performing at the Foreign Service Academy)

Advisers of the Government, senior leaders of political parties, freedom fighters, Ambassadors and Heads of Mission, and high-ranking civil and military officials were present on the occasion.



(Performance at the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy)

The Embassy also participated in two separate events held at Foreign Service Academy, Bangladesh and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on 21 February to mark International Mother Language Day. In both events, the Embassy family showcased traditional Nepali cultural performances.

#### Shivaratri Celebrations at the Embassy

On the auspicious occasion of Mahashivaratri, the Embassy extended greetings and best wishes to the people celebrating the festival on 26 March.

The Shiva temple inside the Embassy premises was open to the public and over 400 people from Nepali, Indian and Bangladeshi Hindu communities residing in Dhaka visited the Shiva temple.



(Devotees visiting the temple at the Embassy premises)

#### **Embassy's Other Engagements**

#### Nepali Army Delegation Visits the Embassy

On 19 January, the Embassy welcomed a delegation from the Nepali Army Command and Staff College, on their official foreign study tour to Bangladesh.

Speaking on the occasion, Ambassador Mr. Bhandari underscored the friendly bilateral relations between Nepal and Bangladesh, emphasizing the strong military cooperation

between the two countries.



(Ambassador welcoming Nepali Army Delegation at the Embassy)

In his welcome remarks, Military Attaché Col. Anjan Keshar Khatri welcomed the participants and highlighted various aspects of cooperation between Nepali Army and Bangladesh Army.

## Visit of A Delegation of Nepali Literary Writers

On 15 January, Ambassador Mr. Bhandari welcomed a delegation of Nepali literary writers led by Dr. Dhan Prasad Subedi, Member Secretary of Nepal Pragya Pratisthan. During their interaction, the Ambassador shed light on the historical and cultural commonalities between Nepal and Bangladesh highlighting the discovery of *Charyapada*, the earliest Bangla poems dating back to at least the 9th century, in the library of the royal court of Nepal in 1908 by Haraprasad Shastri.



(Ambassador Mr. Bhandari with the delegation of Nepali literary writers)

Ambassador commended the contributions of Nepal Pragya Pratisthan as a prestigious institution

dedicated to the study and promotion of Nepali language, literature, philosophy. He also suggested ways to enhance collaboration with literary organizations of Bangladesh.

Highlighting the importance of events promoting artistic and literary exchange between Nepal and Bangladesh, the visiting delegation underscored the significant potential for collaboration between Nepali and Bangladeshi writers and artists to build stronger cultural ties. They also emphasized the importance of regular visits to facilitate mutual learning.

## Inauguration Ceremony of Women Entrepreneurs Trade Fair

Deputy Chief of Mission Ms. Lalita Silwal participated in the inauguration ceremony of a three-day trade fair for the development of SME Women Entrepreneurs organized by the Women Entrepreneur Association of Bangladesh.



(DCM Ms. Silwal with WEAB officials at the inauguration ceremony)

Speaking on the occasion, Ms. Silwal underscored the crucial role of women's entrepreneurship in iob creation. wealth poverty generation, alleviation. human development, and improvements in education and healthcare. Highlighting the initiatives undertaken by the Government of Nepal to promote women's entrepreneurship and ensure greater economic participation of women, she emphasized that women-led enterprises in Nepal have not only improved livelihoods but also challenged traditional norms, paving the way for a more equitable society.

Ms. Silwal was joined by the former president of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) Mr. Abdul Awal Mintoo and the WEAB president Nasreen Fatema Awal during the inauguration ceremony.

## **Participation in BIMSTEC Policy Dialogue**

DCM Ms. Silwal participated in the BIMSTEC Policy Dialogue titled "Regional Cooperation and Development: Curtain Raiser to the Sixth BIMSTEC Summit" held on 12 March at the BIMSTEC Secretariat. The programme was jointly organized by the BIMSTEC Secretariat and the South Asian Network on Economic Modeling (SANEM).

This dialogue brought together key stakeholders and experts to discuss the future trajectory of BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) and address regional challenges and opportunities in the lead-up to the Sixth BIMSTEC Summit.

## **Consular Affairs**

### **Repatriation of Mr. Ramrishi Chaudhury**

In coordination with the concerned authorities including the Ministry of Home Affairs of Bangladesh, the Embassy was able to successfully repatriate Mr. Ramrishi Chaudhury, a Nepali national from Sarlahi district, who was detained at Pabna District Jail in Bangladesh.

Second Secretary Ms. Yojana Bamjan visited Pabna District Jail and received Mr. Chaudhury from the jail on 6 March. On 7 March, Second Secretary Ms. Bamjan, along with Mr. Chaudhury reached the Immigration Office in Kakarvitta, Jhapa via Banglabandha-Fulbari land route and she handed over Mr. Chaudhury to his parents Mr. Ramji Chaudhury and Mrs. Kunti Chaudhury.

## **Education/Student Affairs**

### Visit to the Asian University for Women

On 16 January, Ambassador Mr. Bhandari visited the Asian University for Women (AUW), where he met with Interim Pro-Vice Chancellor Mr. David Denis Taylor and senior faculty members, including Dean of Students Ms. Fatima Mary Sidotam.



(Ambassador with the management team of AUW)

During the meeting with the management team and faculty members, Ambassador Mr. Bhandari expressed his appreciation for AUW's continued support for Nepali students, including during the July/August movement. Dr. Taylor commended Nepali students for their outstanding academic and extracurricular achievements. There are currently 48 Nepali students enrolled in various disciplines across different levels.



(Ambassador Mr. Bhandari interacting with Nepali students at AUW)

16

Issue-1

Ambassador Mr. Bhandari also held a separate interaction with Nepali students studying at the university. He also commended the students for their academic excellence and thanked them for representing Nepal as "cultural ambassadors". Additionally, he urged them to stay informed of the Embassy's activities.

#### **Interaction with Nepali Students in Chittagong**

Ambassador Mr. Bhandari held an interaction on 17 January with Nepali students from four different colleges and universities in Chattogram-Chattogram Medical College, Islamia University College, Chattogram Maa-O-Shishu Hospital Medical College, and University of Science and Technology Chittagong. Recalling his visits to several colleges in 2023, he expressed regret for not being able to visit those institutions recently.

The medical students primarily raised concerns about the issue of stipend for intern doctors and the need for regular visits from the Embassy, among others.



(Embassy officials with Nepali students from various colleges in Chattogram)

In response, Ambassador Mr. Bhandari emphasized that the Embassy prioritizes regular visits to colleges to engage with Nepali students and address their concerns. He also reassured the students that the Embassy had been actively working with the relevant authorities in Bangladesh to address the issue of stipend for Nepali intern doctors.

## Visit to Anwar Khan Medical College

On 5 March, Second Secretary Ms. Bamjan visited Anwer Khan Modern Medical College in Dhaka and met with the college authorities and discussed the overall issues and concerns of Nepali students. As reported by the college authorities, a total of 101 Nepali students, are currently studying at the College.

In a separate interaction with Nepali students, various matters concerning the students were addressed by the Embassy team.



(Second Secretary Ms. Bamjan with Nepali students at Anwar Khan Medical College)

Second Secretary Ms. Bamjan acknowledged the students' request for regular visits to their college and urged them to remain in close contact with the Embassy and to reach out to the Embassy in case of any need. Ms. Bamjan conveyed Nepali students' concerns to the college authorities as well. The college authorities responded positively and pledged to address these issues at the earliest possible.

#### Visit to Enam Medical College

Second Secretary Ms. Bamjan visited, on 19 March, Enam Medical College in Savar, Dhaka and met with the college authorities and discussed the overall issues and concerns of Nepali students. She also had a separate interaction with Nepali students studying there. A total of 154 Nepali students are currently studying at Enam Medical

Volume-3

Issue-1

College.



(Second Secretary with Nepali students at Enam Medical College)

During the interaction, various matters concerning Nepali students were addressed by the Embassy team.



(The Embassy team with the college authorities of Enam Medical College)

Second Secretary Ms. Bamjan noted the concerns of the students and assured them of the Embassy's efforts in prioritizing the concerns of Nepali students all over Bangladesh.

\*\*\*

## Media Coverage and Important Links

## Ambassador's Meeting with Foreign Affairs Adviser

- <u>Dhaka Tribune: Nepal invites Bangladesh</u> to attend Sagarmatha Sambaad
- <u>The Financial Express: Nepal invites</u> <u>Bangladesh to attend 'Sagarmatha</u> <u>Sambaad'</u>
- The Business Standard: <u>Nepal invites</u> Bangladesh to attend 'Sagarmatha <u>Sambaad'</u>
- Bangladesh info.com: <u>Kathmandu invites</u> foreign adviser to visit Nepal
- Green Watch Dhaka: <u>Nepal Invites</u> <u>Bangladesh to Attend 'Sagarmatha</u> <u>Sambaad'</u>

Ambassador's Meeting with Adviser for Commerce

- <u>BSS News: Nepalese Ambassador meets</u>
  <u>Commerce Adviser</u>
- The Daily Star: <u>Bangladesh to receive</u> 40MW electricity from Nepal for 5 months
- Dhaka Tribune: <u>Bangladesh to receive</u> <u>40MW of electricity from Nepal for 5</u> <u>months</u>
- Rising BD.com: <u>Nepal envoy meets</u> <u>Commerce Adviser Sk Bashir Uddin</u>
- Bonik Barta: Nepalese Ambassador meets
  Commerce Adviser

Ambassador's Meeting with Adviser for Environment, Forest and Climate Change

• <u>The Business Standard: Rizwana invited to</u> join climate dialogue in Nepal

- <u>BSS News</u>: <u>Rizwana invited to join climate</u> <u>dialogue in Nepal</u>
- <u>Green Page</u>: <u>Bangladesh-Nepal to work</u> together on climate change

## Painting Competition 2025

- <u>United News of Bangladesh: Nepal</u> <u>Embassy hosts painting competition at</u> <u>Shaheed Minar</u>
- <u>Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS): 350</u> <u>students take part in Nepal Embassy's art</u> <u>competition</u>
- Daily Observer: <u>350 students take part in</u> Nepal Embassy's art competition
- The Kathmandu Post: <u>'Nepal Through My</u> Eyes' in Dhaka
- <u>My Republica: 'Nepal Through My Eyes'</u> painting event held in Dhaka
- <u>The Himalayan Times: Nepali Embassy in</u> <u>Dhaka holds painting competition</u>
- Spotlight Magazine: <u>Nepali Embassy In</u> <u>Bangladesh Organized Painting</u> <u>Competition</u>

### **Trade and Investment Linkages Programme**

- <u>United News of Bangladesh: Energy</u> <u>cooperation provides mutual benefits not</u> <u>only to Bangladesh and Nepal but also</u> <u>entire South Asia: Ambassador</u>
- The Rising Nepal: <u>Trade and investment</u> <u>linkages between Nepal and Bangladesh</u> <u>discussed</u>
- Aarthik News: <u>Trade and investment</u> <u>linkages between Nepal and Bangladesh</u> <u>discussed</u>
- <u>Business 360: Nepal hosts trade and</u> investment linkage programme in Dhaka

## **Video Links to the Events**

## Nepali Army Day 2025 Celebration



(Click on the image to watch the full video)

**Event Nepal-Bangladesh** on Economic Cooperation



**Embassy of Nepal** United Nations Road, Road No. 2, Diplomatic Enclave, Baridhara, Dhaka Telephone: +88-02- 222292568, 222292490 Fax: +88-02-8832590 Email: eondhaka@dhaka.net eondhaka@mofa.gov.np Website: bd.nepalembassy.gov.np

## **Painting Competition 2025**



(Click on the image to watch the full video)

## Ambassador's Greetings on Eid-ul-Fitr -2025



(Click on the image to watch the full video)

## Follow us on:



https://twitter.com/NepalinBD

https://www.facebook.com/embofnepalindhaka

For more news and updates, visit our website at https://bd.nepalembassy.gov.np/ or follow us at https://www.facebook.com/embofnepalindhaka