



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Finance
Economic Relations Division
UN Branch-III
www.erd.gov.bd



Press Release

As part of celebrating the Birth Centenary of the Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, a Webinar on **LDC Graduation: A Leap Towards the Father of the Nation's Vision of "Sonar Bangla"** was held on Thursday, March 18, 2021 organized by Economic Relations Division (ERD). Mr. A H M Mustafa Kamal, FCA, MP, Honorable Finance Minister Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The keynote Paper on the Webinar was presented by Dr. Mashiur Rahman, Economic Affairs Adviser to the Prime Minister of Bangladesh. Mr. Abdur Rouf Talukder, Senior Secretary, Finance Division, Ministry of Finance, Dr. Shamsul Alam, Member (Senior Secretary) General Economics Division, Planning Commission, Ms, Mia Seppo, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Bangladesh and Mr. Manmohan Parkash, Country Director, Bangladesh resident Mission, Asian Development Bank (ADB) were present as the panel discussants in the Webinar. Diplomats from foreign missions in Bangladesh, development partners and ERD Officials attended the event. Ms. Fatima Yasmin, Secretary of ERD, Ministry of Finance welcomed the participants to the webinar, and Dr. Nahid Rashid, Additional Secretary and UN Wing Chief, ERD delivered the Vote of thanks.

The underlying message of both the Key Note Speaker and the Chief Guest was that the Father of the Nation, had immense love for his country and always wanted to make Bangladesh into Sonar Bangla. Bangladesh has continued the great leader's path towards development and is now in a position to become a middle-income country. It all started with Bangabandhu's visionary leadership and his insistence on social inclusion that continues to guide the government of Bangladesh today towards achieving its ambitions and goals. In achieving the goals Bangabandhu realized that developing partnership with other countries could help building the new Nation as well as to brighten the image of the country on the global stage and strengthen his foreign policy goals which is based on friendship to all.

Bangabandhu's perception of economic policies and its importance in nation building has been admirably carried forward by his daughter, Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. With the prudent leadership of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, following the teachings of the Father of the Nation, Bangladesh is on its way to fulfilling his dream of a Sonar Bangla.

Bangladesh has already achieved a significant milestone by meeting all graduation criteria from a Least Developed Country (LDC) to a Developing Country by 2026. The Government has adopted Vision 2041 and associated the 2nd Perspective Plan 2021-2041 to become an Upper Middle-Income Country (UMIC) by 2031 and eventually, a High-Income Country (HIC) by 2041.


18.3.2021

(Baby Rani Karmakar)
Deputy Secretary (UN-III)
Economic Relations Division