

**Bangladesh High Commission
Canberra**

Press Release
(29 March 2010)

Observance of the 40th Independence and National Day

Bangladesh High Commission in Canberra organised a programme to celebrate the 40th Independence and National Day of Bangladesh in a befitting manner. The National Flag was hoisted by H. E. the High Commissioner at the Chancery on 26 March 2010 in the morning. All members of the Mission and some members of Bangladesh community in Canberra were present at the Flag hoisting ceremony. This was followed by a discussion meeting on the significance of the day, organized at the conference room in the Chancery. Messages from the Hon'ble President, Hon'ble Prime Minister and Hon'ble Foreign Minister were read out at the beginning of the discussion meeting. The speakers paid their tribute to the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and highlighted his legendary leadership in the Historic War of Liberation. They also praised the statesmanship of Bangabandhu for his dedication for the development and well being of the country and its people. The speakers further pointed out that we all should follow the qualities of this visionary leader in every sphere of our lives for further progress and prosperity of Bangladesh. The speakers also paid great respect to the four national leaders, three million martyrs, all the freedom fighters, and all those who underwent sufferings in different forms for achieving the independence of our beloved motherland.

H. E. the High Commissioner and Mrs. Jasmin Masud hosted a reception at the Bangladesh House in the evening. As per the standard practice, the Chief of Protocol from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) was present as the Guest of Honour. More than three hundreds invited guests attended the reception from 1830 to 2030 hours. The dignitaries attending the reception included Federal Members of Parliament, leaders of business community, high officials from the DFAT, Australian Federal Government, ACT Government, representative of the Chief of Defence Forces, representatives of the Chiefs of Army, Navy and Air force, Foreign Diplomats, Academics, Media Persons, and members of Bangladesh community. During the reception a magnificent cultural presentations as well as multimedia presentations portraying natural beauty of Bangladesh were also organized.

A commemorative publication "**Bangladesh: A Nation on the March Towards Digital Bangladesh**" was published by the High Commission on the occasion of 40th Independence and National Day of Bangladesh.
