

Embassy of Bangladesh  
Bangkok

**“Ambassador in Thailand calls upon expatriates to uphold a secular image and the values of 1971”**

Bangkok, 16 December 2017,

“Young expatriates must uphold the values of our 1971 Victory for a secular, progressive and culturally diverse Bangladesh”, said Bangladesh Ambassador in Bangkok SaidaMunaTasneem at a Victory Day celebration this morning. The Ambassador urged upon the expatriates to remain alert against radicalization and extremism and act as Bangladesh’s cultural envoys in a predominantly Buddhist Thailand and Cambodia. Embassy of Bangladesh, Bangkok celebrated the glorious 47<sup>th</sup> Victory Day this morning with colorful festivities. Programme of the day included hoisting of the National Flag at full mast by Ambassador Tasneem at the Chancery in presence of large numbers of expatriate Bangladeshis living in Thailand and officers of the Embassy. A special prayer was offered for eternal peace of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu, the valiant freedom fighters and martyrs of 1971 Liberation War.

A colorful cultural soiree comprising the iconic 1971 *Betar Bangla* victory songs, patriotic dances and poetry recitations was presented at the celebratory event participated by more than 300 expatriate Bangladeshis in Thailand living. Messages of the President, Prime Minister, Foreign Minister and Minister of State of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh issued on the occasion, were read out by the Ambassador. Bangladeshi expatriate professionals spontaneously took part in a discussion session on the significance of the day. Ambassador Tasneem paid homage to the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the recognition of his historic 7<sup>th</sup> March Speech by UNESCO as a World Documentary Heritage. She recalled the supreme sacrifices made by the valiant freedom fighters and the ‘Biranganas’ in creating the sovereign nation of Bangladesh for the present generation. Ambassador Tasneem also showcased the various national and international successes of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina’s Government including a robust economic growth and social development and championing women empowerment and international peace and security. Briefing the community of the government’s diplomatic initiatives to repatriate forcibly displaced Rohingya Muslims sheltered in Bangladesh back to Myanmar, the Envoy called upon the expatriates to create awareness on the issue in Thailand and Cambodia.

The celebration of the 47<sup>th</sup> Victory Day ended with a reception where homemade Bangladeshi food was served.

