

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



PRIME MINISTER
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
BANGLADESH

23 Agrahayan 1428
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Message

On behalf of the Government and the people of Bangladesh and my behalf, I would take this opportunity to convey my sincere felicitations to the peoples of the SAARC member states on the auspicious occasion of the 37th SAARC Charter Day 2021. It is my pleasure to extend my greetings to the members of the SAARC Secretariat and members of all other entities affiliated with the SAARC family on this happy occasion.

Born in Bangladesh, SAARC emerged as a regional organization as an embodiment of the legacy of vision of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, who had dreamt of working in collaboration with the neighboring countries back in 1972 for the collective peace, progress, and prosperity of the peoples of the South Asian region. Pursuing our national progress through the promotion of regional cooperation has been an integral component of the foreign policy priorities of Bangladesh since then. As we have been celebrating the Birth Centenary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the Golden Jubilee of our Independence, I reiterate my Government's commitment to strengthen the SAARC process for the materialization of the dream of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib to achieve the collective progress of our South Asian neighbors.

The SAARC region offers enormous potentials for cooperation and collaboration in multiple sectors, including trade promotion, investment, and connectivity. The SAARC Member States are inextricably linked through geographical proximity and many other commonalities in economic, cultural, and social systems. I firmly believe that SAARC can emerge as an effective and result-oriented regional organization with a much-needed, more profound, and more robust sense of fraternity and solidarity among the SAARC member states. Our collective efforts would enable us to overcome the various setbacks left by the prolonged COVID-19 global pandemic.

I express my firm conviction that this special day would be an impetus for all stakeholders of SAARC in moving forward with optimism and resolving the existing and forthcoming challenges that may fall on the path of our collective ventures ahead.

Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu.
Long live the SAARC spirit.

Sheikh Hasina