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‘Bangladesh should push climate diplomacy harder’

UNB . Dhaka

State Minister for Planning Dr Shamsul Alam on Tuesday said Bangladesh firmly believes that climate change is a security issue, and it must be discussed at a regular interval at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

“Strict implementation of Paris Agreement is necessary to reduce the adverse impacts of climate change,” he said adding that this is high time for the major emitters to meet the mitigations target swiftly.

He also said the issue of loss and damage must be addressed with utmost importance. Speaking at a hybrid seminar titled “Climate Diplomacy: Constraints and Choices for Bangladesh” as chief guest, Alam noted that Bangladesh has been a significant player in global climate diplomacy.

Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BIISS) organised the seminar at its auditorium.

During the presidency of Climate Vulnerable Forum, Alam said, Bangladesh emerged as a legitimate voice in the climate change negotiations under the able leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

The country has launched the “Mujib Climate Prosperity Plan” with the aim to put her on a journey from climate vulnerability to resilience to climate prosperity, the State Minister said.

“It is indeed one of the landmark policy guidelines for climate vulnerable countries,” he said.

Professor Saleemul Huq , Director of International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), said they need to understand and take into account that the UN-backed COP, which only takes place once a year, is no longer the only place where climate diplomacy takes place.

He said every diplomat in Bangladesh missions across the world now needs to make climate change as a core issue of bilateral discussion.

BIISS Chairman Kazi Imtiaz Hossain said climate diplomacy has become a necessity due to climate change and ensuing threats.

Like many other countries Bangladesh is also enhancing effort in this field, he said. The government is now involving not only ministries, but also its different wings for promoting greater coordination, said Hossain, also a former ambassador.

For example, he said, at national levels, the 8th Five Year Plan, the Perspective Plan to 2040, and the BDP 2100—all incorporate addressing climate change issues as a key priority.

Acting Director General, BIISS Colonel M A Saadi, said that both human actions and inactions are creating planetary crises like climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.

Source: <https://businesspostbd.com/news/bangladesh-should-push-climate-diplomacy-harder>

Bangladesh needs to make climate change core issue of diplomacy: Experts



Photo: Collected

Bangladesh needs to make climate change a core issue of diplomacy as it has currently become closely related to security issues, said experts and stakeholders on Tuesday in a seminar.

"We need to understand and take into account the fact that the Conference of Parties (COP), which takes place only once a year, is no longer the only place where climate diplomacy takes place," Professor Saleemul Huq, director of International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), said at a seminar titled "Climate Diplomacy: Constraints and Choices for Bangladesh" yesterday.

"Our diplomats have to do more in this regard. It is not enough to join only in annual conferences. Indeed, every diplomat in Bangladesh embassies across the world now needs to make efforts to tackle climate change as a core issue of bilateral discussion," he said at the event organised by Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS) at BISS auditorium.

"We are still vulnerable to climate change, but we are resilient. So, vulnerability is no longer our selling point on a global level, but resilience is," said Professor Saleemul Huq.

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Shamsul Alam, who participated in the event as the chief guest, said, "Bangladesh firmly believes that climate change is a security issue and it must be discussed at a regular interval at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). The strict implementation of the Paris Agreement is necessary to reduce the adverse impacts of climate change.

"Bangladesh has been a significant player in global climate diplomacy. During the presidency of Climate Vulnerable Forum, Bangladesh emerged as a legitimate voice in the climate change negotiations under the able leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

"The country has launched the 'Mujib Climate Prosperity Plan' with an aim to put her on a journey from climate vulnerability to resilience to climate prosperity. It is indeed one of the landmark policy guidelines for climate vulnerable countries."

Dr Shamsul Alam said this is high time the major carbon emitters meet the mitigations target swiftly. Besides, the issue of loss and damage must be addressed with utmost importance.

Colonel MA Saadi, acting director general of BIISS, said the fundamental bases of Bangladesh's climate diplomacy are: adhering to multilateralism in climate policy, accelerating domestic action and raising global ambition, and enhancing international climate cooperation through advocacy and outreach.

Ambassador Kazi Imtiaz Hossain, chairman of BIISS, said, due to climate change and ensuing threats, climate diplomacy has become a necessity. Currently, the government has been involving the ministries and also its different wings, including the local ones, for promoting greater inter-organisational coordination.

"For example, at national levels, the 8th Five Year Plan, the Perspective Plan 2021-2041, and the Delta Plan 2100 – all address climate change issues as a key priority. However, there still remains much to do at regional and global levels for Bangladesh," he added.

The speakers focused on the role of major emitters in climate finance in upcoming COP-27 to be held from 6-18 November this year in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt.

Source: <https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/environment/climate-change/bangladesh-needs-make-climate-change-core-issue-diplomacy>

New Age
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Brand Bangladesh through climate diplomacy: experts

Staff Correspondent

Climate diplomacy can create huge scope for Bangladesh to take advantages over the climate vulnerable countries of the world, said climate experts and ambassadors at a seminar on Tuesday.

Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies organised the seminar titled 'Climate Diplomacy: Constraints and Choices for Bangladesh' in the capital.

Climate experts said that not vulnerability but Bangladesh can create a brand on its climate resilient innovations that would create huge scope for the nation in global market.

'We should put attention on spreading the stories on climate resilience that our people have invented,' said climate expert and International Centre for Climate Change and Development director Saleemul Huq.

He said that what the country was doing for climate could be a lesson for the rest of the world when developed countries were avoiding the issue in large scale.

United Nations Development Programme's programme specialist Arif M Faisal said that vulnerability was not a sellable item but resilience.

'Bangladesh has a lot to sell in global market,' he said.

State minister for planning Shamsul Alam as chief guest said that Bangladesh set many examples of climate adaptation, mitigation and resilience through own finance, Bangladesh Climate Change Trust Fund.

‘In all development projects now we are addressing climate issue,’ he said mentioning coastal area polders and rehabilitation project at Khurushkul Ashrayan Prokolpol in Cox’s Bazar.

He said that Bangladesh scrapped coal based power plants and adopted Mujib Climate Prosperity Plan and Delta Plan for a better Bangladesh.

Experts said that Bangladesh should take other advantages from the developed countries as they were not giving fund for loss and damage.

They said that it might be free visa for people so that in any calamity people could take shelter in those countries.

Former foreign minister and freedom fighter Shamsher Mobin Chowdhury, BIISS chair Kazi Imtiaz Hossain, its acting director general M A Saadi, senior research fellow Sufia Khanom, ICCCAD deputy director Mizan R Khan, Dhaka University professor Anower Hossain and climate expert A Atiq Rahman, among others, spoke at the seminar.

Department of Environment director Mirza Shawkat Ali in his presentation on ‘Major Outcomes of COP 26 and Issues of COP 27: Bangladesh Perspective’ said that a large number of commitments of the COP26 were yet to implemented.

Source: <https://www.newagebd.net/article/182862/brand-bangladesh-through-climate-diplomacy-experts>

Poor diplomacy in global platforms frustrates climate financing in Bangladesh

FE ONLINE REPORT



Climate experts on Tuesday expressed frustrations as the country's poor climate diplomacy on the global platforms resulted in weak financing while Bangladesh loses 2.0 per cent of GDP every year due to the climate effect.

They delivered their dissatisfaction at a seminar organised by the Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS) titled "Climate Diplomacy: Constraints and Choices for Bangladesh" at BISS auditorium in the city.

Shamsul Alam, state minister for Planning, addressed the event as the chief guest while Prof Saleemul Huq, director, International Centre for Climate Change and Development, (ICCCAD), addressed as Special Guest.

Ambassador Kazi Imtiaz Hossain, PAA, chairman, BISS, chaired the inaugural session and Colonel M A Saadi, acting director general, BISS, delivered the welcome address.

Professor Mizan R Khan, deputy director, ICCCAD in his presentation said that the climate financing method has no dedicated fund for loss and damages. He was unsatisfied with the climate diplomacy and financing of the country.

M A Saadi, noted Bangladesh, as one of the most climate vulnerable countries, is actively pursuing the cause of environmental justice in international forums.

Moreover, the country has led the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) and has been an exemplary model by translating its vulnerability into resilience through different climate actions and diplomatic efforts.

The fundamental bases of Bangladesh's climate diplomacy are: adhering to multilateralism in climate policy, accelerating domestic action and raising global ambition, and enhancing international climate cooperation through advocacy and outreach, Colonel M A Saadi added.

Saleemul Huq said that we need to understand and take into account that the COP, which only takes place once a year, is no longer the only place where climate diplomacy occurs.

Bangladesh is a climate vulnerable country-- is no longer a selling point rather we have to brand Bangladesh as a climate resilient country and Bangladesh is a leader in climate adaptation and management, he added.

Diplomats need to know the climate effect on Bangladesh and what climate change is affecting Bangladesh and make room for tackling climate change as a core issue of bilateral discussion, he suggested.

Ambassador Kazi Imtiaz Hossain said that, due to climate change and ensuing threats, climate diplomacy has become a necessity.

The government now has been involving not only ministries but also different wings, including local ones for promoting greater inter-organisational coordination, he added.

Shamsul Alam, however, claimed that Bangladesh has been a significant player in global climate diplomacy. During the presidency of CVF, Bangladesh emerged as a legitimate voice in the climate change negotiations.

The Rohingya refugee influx has also affected the coastal areas badly, he added.

Bangladesh firmly believes that climate change is a security issue and it must be discussed at a regular interval at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

The strict implementation of the Paris Agreement is necessary to reduce the adverse impacts of climate change. This is high time the major emitters need to meet the mitigation target swiftly. Besides, the issue of loss and damage must be addressed with utmost importance, the Chief Guest added.

The government has doubled the climate budget in the eight-year national plan, the junior minister added.

Source: <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/national/poor-diplomacy-in-global-platforms-frustrates-climate-financing-in-bangladesh-1664891502>

BSS

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Shamsul urges major carbon emitters to meet mitigation targets



DHAKA, Oct 4, 2022 (BSS) - State Minister for Planning Dr Shamsul Alam today urged the major global carbon emitters to meet their mitigation targets aiming to help address the adverse impacts of climate change.

"This is high time the major emitters met the mitigations target swiftly," he told the inaugural session of a seminar here.

Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS) organised the hybrid seminar on "Climate Diplomacy: Constraints and Choices for Bangladesh" at its auditorium.

Speaking as the chief guest, Shamsul said Bangladesh is a significant player in global climate diplomacy.

"During the presidency of CVF (Climate Vulnerable Forum), Bangladesh emerged as a legitimate voice in the climate change negotiations under the skilled leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina," he said.

The state minister said the country has launched the "Mujib Climate Prosperity Plan" with the aim to put her on a journey from climate vulnerability to resilience to climate prosperity.

It is indeed one of the landmark policy guidelines for climate vulnerable countries, he said, adding that Bangladesh firmly believes that climate change is a security issue and it must be discussed at a regular interval at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

Shamsul said the strict implementation of Paris Agreement is necessary to reduce the adverse impacts of climate change.

Besides, he said, the issue of loss and damage must be addressed with utmost importance.

Saleemul Huq, Director of International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), said: "We need to understand and take into account that the COP, which only takes place once a year, is no longer the only place where climate diplomacy occurs."

Indeed, he said, every diplomat in Bangladesh embassies across the world now needs to make efforts to tackle climate change as a core issue of bilateral discussion.

BIISS Chairman Ambassador Kazi Imtiaz Hossain said climate diplomacy has become a necessity.

"Like many other countries, Bangladesh is also enhancing endeavours in this field," he said.

For example, at national levels, the 8th Five Year Plan, the Perspective Plan to 2040, and the BDP 2100-all incorporate addressing climate change issues as a key priority, the BIISS chairman said.

However, he said, there still remains much to do at regional and global levels for Bangladesh.

In his welcome address, Acting Director General of BIISS Colonel MA Saadi said both human actions and inactions are creating planetary crises like climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.

Bangladesh, as one of the most climate vulnerable countries, is actively pursuing the cause of environmental justice in international forums, he said.

Moreover, Saadi said, the country has led the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) and has been an exemplary model by translating its vulnerability into resilience through different climate actions and diplomatic efforts.

He said the fundamental bases of Bangladesh's climate diplomacy are: adhering to multilateralism in climate policy, accelerating domestic action and raising global ambition, and enhancing international climate cooperation through advocacy and outreach.

The working session of the seminar was chaired by former Foreign Secretary Ambassador Shamsher M Chowdhury.

Four presentations were deliberated in the working session. Professor Mizan R Khan, Deputy Director, ICCCAD, made a presentation on "Financing for Loss and Damage: Concerns for Bangladesh", while Arif M Faisal, Programme Specialist (Nature, Climate and Energy), UNDP Bangladesh, on "Role of International Organization in Climate Diplomacy".

Mirza Shawkat Ali, Director, Climate Change and International Convention, Department of Environment, made a presentation on "Major Outcomes of COP 26 and Issues of COP 27: Bangladesh Perspective" while Dr Sufia Khanom, Senior Research Fellow, BIISS, on "Bangladesh Leadership in Climate Change Negotiations: An Assessment".

Source: <https://www.bssnews.net/news/86259>



Source: <https://unb.com.bd/category/bangladesh/climate-change-is-a-security-issue/101941>

যুগান্তর, ০৫ অক্টোবর ২০২২

বিসের সেমিনারে অভিমত

জলবায়ু পরিবর্তনের কারণে বাংলাদেশের জিডিপি ২ শতাংশ কম হচ্ছে

কূটনৈতিক প্রতিবেদক

পরিকল্পনা প্রতিমন্ত্রী ড. শামসুল আলম বলেছেন, জলবায়ু পরিবর্তনের কারণে বাংলাদেশের জিডিপি দুই শতাংশ কম হচ্ছে। এ ছাড়া সীমিত ভূমি ও সম্পদের ওপর চাপ সৃষ্টি হয়েছে। সমুদ্রপৃষ্ঠের উচ্চতা বৃদ্ধির কারণে বেড়েছে লবণাক্ততা। প্রাকৃতিক দুর্যোগের ফলে ফসলের উৎপাদন কমে গেছে।

মঙ্গলবার ঢাকায় জলবায়ু কূটনীতি বিষয়ক এক সেমিনারে প্রধান অতিথির বক্তব্যে তিনি এ কথা বলেন। বাংলাদেশ ইনস্টিটিউট অব ইন্টারন্যাশনাল অ্যান্ড স্ট্র্যাটেজিক স্টাডিস (বিস) সেমিনারের আয়োজন করে। আগামী ৬ থেকে ১৮ নভেম্বর মিসরের শারম আল শেখ নগরীতে 'কনফারেন্স অব পার্টিস-২৭' (কোপ-২৭) অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। বিশ্ব জলবায়ু সম্মেলন নামে পরিচিত কোপ-২৭ কে সামনে রেখে সেমিনার অনুষ্ঠিত হয়। বিস মিলনায়তনে আয়োজিত সেমিনারে সভাপতিত্ব করেন প্রতিষ্ঠানটির চেয়ারম্যান ইমতিয়াজ হোসেন। স্বাগত বক্তব্য দেন বিসের ভারপ্রাপ্ত মহাপরিচালক কর্নেল এমএ সাদি। মূল বক্তা ছিলেন ইন্টারন্যাশনাল সেন্টার ফর ক্লাইমেট চেঞ্জ অ্যান্ড ডেভেলপমেন্টের পরিচালক অধ্যাপক সালীমুল হক। সেমিনারে সাবেক পররাষ্ট্র সচিব শমসের মোবিন চৌধুরীও বক্তব্য দেন।

পরিকল্পনা প্রতিমন্ত্রী বলেন, 'বিশ্বের তাপমাত্রা এক ডিগ্রি সেলসিয়াস বৃদ্ধি পেলে বাংলাদেশের অনেক অংশ তলিয়ে যাবে। ফলে চলতি শতকের শেষ নাগাদ বাংলাদেশের চার কোটি মানুষ বাস্তুচ্যুত হবে। ১৯৭২ থেকে ২০১৬ সাল পর্যন্ত ঢাকা মহানগরীর তাপমাত্রা দশমিক ৮ ডিগ্রি সেলসিয়াস বৃদ্ধি পেয়েছে। বাংলাদেশে বন্যা ও খরাও বৃদ্ধি পেয়েছে। বার্ষিক বৃষ্টিপাতের পরিমাণও কমে যাচ্ছে। এতে কৃষি ক্ষতিগ্রস্ত হচ্ছে। সিলেট অঞ্চলে গত ১০০ বছরের মধ্যে সবচেয়ে বড় বন্যা হয়েছে। প্রায় ১১ লাখ রোহিঙ্গাকে আশ্রয় দিয়ে বাংলাদেশের পরিবেশ মারাত্মক ক্ষতির মুখে পড়েছে।'

অধ্যাপক ড. সালীমুল হক বলেন, ‘বাংলাদেশে বর্তমানে ক্লাইমেট ভালনারেবল গ্রুপের চেয়ারম্যান নেই। শারম আল শেখে জলবায়ু সম্মেলনের সময়ে সভাপতি থাকবে ঘানা। কিন্তু ট্রয়কা হিসাবে বাংলাদেশের ভূমিকা থাকবে। ট্রয়কা মানে হলো বর্তমান সভাপতি এবং পূর্ববর্তী দুই সভাপতি। বাংলাদেশকে জলবায়ু কূটনীতির নেতৃত্ব গ্রহণ করতে হবে।’