



Seminar on the Eve of Commemorating Fifty Years of Bangladesh-China Relations
Bangladesh-China Relations: A Future Outlook
Dhaka, Bangladesh
14 October 2024
Press Release

Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BIISS) and the Centre for China Studies (SIIS-DU) jointly organised an International Seminar on ***“Bangladesh-China Relations: A Future Outlook”*** on 14 October 2024 at the InterContinental Hotel, Dhaka on the eve of commemorating 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Bangladesh. **Md. Touhid Hossain**, Honourable Adviser for Foreign Affairs, Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. **H.E. Mr. Yao Wen**, Ambassador of China to Bangladesh and **Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya**, Distinguished Fellow, CPD & Chair, Committee on White Paper on the State of Bangladesh’s Economy were present as Special Guests. **Major General Iftekhar Anis, BSP, awc, afwc, psc, PEng**, Director General, BIISS delivered the Welcome Address. **Dr. Yang Jiemian**, Professor, Director of the Academic Advisory Council, SIIS made a special remark during the session. **Ambassador AFM Gousal Azam Sarker**, Chairman, BIISS presided over the Inaugural Session. **Dr. Md. Nazrul Islam**, Additional Foreign Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh was a Special Guest during the third working session.

There were three working sessions in the international seminar. The first working session titled **“The Impact of Bangladesh's Changing Political Landscape on Regional Dynamics”** was moderated by **Ambassador Farooq Sobhan**, Former Foreign Secretary, Government of Bangladesh. The second working session titled **“Bangladesh’s Political, Economic, and Social Reforms and the Trends”** was moderated by **Dr. Zhang Jiu’an**, Associate Research Fellow, Academy of Contemporary China and World Studies. **Professor Amena Mohsin**, Department of International Relations, University of Dhaka moderated the third working session titled **“Strengthening China-Bangladesh Cooperation and Advancing the Comprehensive Strategic Cooperative Partnership.”**

Distinguished presenters of the working sessions were **Dr. Niloy Ranjan Biswas**, Professor, Department of International Relations, University of Dhaka; **Dr. Zhang Jiadong**, Professor, Director of the South Asia Research Center, Fudan University; **Dr. Kazi Maruful Islam**, Professor, Department of Development Studies, University of Dhaka; **Dr. Guo Na**, Director of the Bangladesh Research Institute, Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences; **Dr. Mao Keji**, Assistant Research Fellow, International Cooperation Center, National Development and Reform Commission, China and **Mr. Abu Salah Md Yousuf**, Research Director, BIISS. Distinguished panelists of the working sessions were **Dr. Liu Peng**, Associate Professor, School of International Relations, Yunnan University; **Ambassador Mahbub Uz Zaman**; **Ms. Deng Lan**, Associate Professor, Institute of Indian Studies, Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences, Chinese (Kunming) Academy of South and Southeast Asian Studies; **Professor Imtiaz Ahmad**, Executive Director, Center for Alternatives; **Dr. Wang Xu**, Associate Professor, Peking University and **Dr. Md Safiqul Islam**, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Chittagong.

In different sessions of the day-long seminar, distinguished speakers noted that the cooperation between Bangladesh and China has evolved in many ways and economic relations is the cornerstone of the relationship. Speakers commended China’s status as Bangladesh’s largest trading partner and highlighted several key initiatives undertaken by China to enhance Bangladesh’s export capabilities. Additionally, the discussions addressed critical issues such as investment, defense collaboration, and technology transfer.

Senior officials from different ministries, ambassadors and high commissioners, senior civil and military officials, media, academia, think tanks, business personalities, students and teachers from different universities participated in open discussion sessions and raised their valuable questions, opinions and observations.