Message by Email

To : MOFA, Dhaka
From : Bangladoot, Lisbon
No : 19.01.3511.001.39.039.14
Dated : 03 March 2025

Director (Public Diplomacy) from Counsellor repeated to Director (WE &EU)

Subject: Report on the celebration of 'Youth Festival- 2025'

With reference to the Ministry's Fax/Diplomatic Bag/E-mail No. 19.00.0000.625.02.003.22/45 dated 12 February 2025 and the Youth and Sports Ministry's Memo No. 34.00.0000.070.23.001.24-239 dated 09 February 2025, please be informed that in celebration of the Youth Festival 2025 of Bangladesh, the Embassy of Bangladesh in Lisbon, Portugal organized a Dialogue on " The Potentials of the Youth Community" on 18 February 2025 at the Embassy Auditorium.

02. The detailed report along with some pictures of the event are enclosed herewith for your kind information.

Enclosure: As stated

With best regards,

(Laila Muntajeri Deena)

Report on the Dialogue on "The Potentials of the Youth Community"
In celebration of the Youth Festival 2025

Date: 18 February 2025 at 4:30 PM
Venue: Embassy Auditorium

Introduction:

In celebration of the Youth Festival 2025 of Bangladesh, the Embassy of Bangladesh in Lisbon, Portugal, organized a Dialogue on "The Potentials of the Youth Community" on 18 February 2025. The event aimed to explore the role of youth in shaping a multicultural future, the challenges they face, and the opportunities available to them. The dialogue brought together members of the Bangladeshi Student Association, Portuguese students, young entrepreneurs, social organizations, and other distinguished guests, making it an engaging and interactive session.

Opening Remarks:

The event commenced with a brief background presentation by the Third Secretary of the Embassy, highlighting the significance of youth engagement and their role in shaping society. The presentation emphasized the need for collaboration, dialogue, and mutual support among young people, particularly those from migrant backgrounds, to build an inclusive and forward-looking society.

Keynote Presentation:

A young entrepreneur delivered the keynote speech on "The Role of Youth in Shaping Portugal's Multicultural Future". The speaker discussed the evolving landscape of multiculturalism in Portugal and how the youth community, both local and migrant, plays a crucial role in shaping a diverse and inclusive society. He also highlighted the challenges young people face, including language barriers, employment struggles, and social integration. The speaker emphasized the importance of unity and collaboration in overcoming these challenges and building a more inclusive future.

Panel Discussion:

Following the keynote speech, a panel discussion took place with two promising discussants:

1. Ms. Catarina Pinto (Representative from an organization "To Peace", working for youth empowerment)
   - Spoke about the challenges faced by young migrants in Portugal, including language adaptation, job opportunities, and integration difficulties.
   - Expressed optimism about the potential of young people, emphasizing that they are the future leaders who, through unity and collaboration, can create a better world.
2. Dr. Md. Rabiul Islam (Academic and Researcher)
   - Highlighted the role of the modern generation in shaping global affairs.
   - Provided examples from Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Serbia, where youth are actively participating in policymaking, climate change issues, and technological advancements.
   - Emphasized that young people are stepping into every sector, making a significant impact in various fields.

Open Discussion:

The dialogue featured an open discussion session where seven participants actively shared their thoughts, experiences, and concerns. Several key issues were raised, including:

- Portuguese language adaptation problems: Many young migrants face difficulties in learning Portuguese, which affects their education, job prospects, and social integration.
- Job crisis: Limited job opportunities for young people, especially those from migrant backgrounds, was a major concern.
- Cultural differences and gender biases: Participants discussed the importance of cultural exchange and overcoming gender biases that affect career growth.
- Challenges faced by young investors: Entrepreneurs highlighted the difficulties in starting businesses in Portugal, including bureaucratic challenges and financial constraints.
- Skill development: The need for training programs and mentorship to enhance the skills of young people was emphasized.

Recommendations:

- Organizing more seminars and workshops to guide newcomers to Portugal.
- Arranging networking events and get-togethers for students studying in different educational institutions in Portugal.
- Encouraging young people to take on challenges and explore available opportunities in different sectors.

Cultural Performance:

A small cultural performance was held as part of the event, featuring members of the Bangladeshi community living in Portugal. The performance was highly appreciated and added a cultural dimension to the dialogue, celebrating the rich heritage of Bangladesh.

Concluding Remarks by H.E. the Ambassador:

His Excellency, the Ambassador of Bangladesh to Portugal, delivered the concluding remarks, summarizing the key points of the discussion and reinforcing the need for collective efforts in addressing youth challenges. At the beginning of his speech, he recalled the Martyrs and injured of the July-August Movement in Bangladesh, emphasizing the importance of resilience and struggle in overcoming obstacles. He discussed the challenges, prospects, and trade-offs faced by young people, particularly migrants in Portugal. He stressed that embracing reality is essential and urged the community to work together in building a strong, supportive network in Portugal. He stated that "Reform is the buzzword", encouraging continuous engagement and collaborative efforts for progress. He also emphasized the need to continue such dialogues and engagements to help the youth grow and succeed. He further encouraged the Bangladeshi and Portuguese youth communities to take advantage of the opportunities available in Portugal and contribute meaningfully to society.

Vote of Thanks:

The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by the Counsellor of the Embassy, who expressed gratitude to:

- The Ambassador of Bangladesh to Portugal for his leadership and insightful remarks.
- The keynote speaker, panel discussants, and open discussion participants for their valuable contributions.
- The Bangladeshi Student Association, Portuguese students, young entrepreneurs, and representatives from social organizations for their participation and engagement.
- The performers and cultural contributors for their efforts in making the event lively.
- The Embassy team for their hard work in organizing the successful event.

Conclusion:

In celebration of the Youth Festival 2025, the Dialogue on "The Potentials of the Youth Community" served as a forum for the youth from diverse backgrounds to discuss their challenges, opportunities, and aspirations. The event fostered a spirit of hope, empowering the youth through network and mutual collaboration. It also paved the way for future engagements where Bangladesh Embassy in Lisbon commits to continue its collaboration and supportive role in future.




UNITY: OUR TRUE STRENGTH
- "MENTORING AND RESOURCE-SHARING ACROSS CULTURES."
- "Diversity as a strength for Portuguese society."
- "Creating a shared sense of belonging."
EMBASSY OF BANGLADESH
LISBON




"Let's Change the Country
Let's Change the World"
In Observance of the Youth Festival of Bangladesh
gue on
"The Potentials of the Youth Community"
Embassy of Bangladesh, Lisbon
Tuesday, 18 February 2025
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