Message from the UN Resident Coordinator in Bangladesh

Paying tribute on the occasion of International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers

Every year the United Nations and the global community pay tribute to the men and women who currently serve or have served in peacekeeping missions all over the world. Peacekeeping is an important component in the realisation of global peace and security. Ever since the first United Nations peacekeeping mission in May 1948, peacekeeping has continually evolved to address more complex issues of war, conflict, and shifting political realities, requiring multidimensional approaches that include rule of law, human rights, and protection of civilians.

Personnel from the Bangladesh Armed Forces and Police have set an extraordinary example in the field of humanitarian assistance. Bangladesh is one of the top troop contributing countries to UN Peacekeeping missions, and the Bangladesh Peacekeeping Forces are known for their dedication and bravery in service. Their hard work ensures that peacekeeping is seen as a viable entry-point to resolve conflict, and they carry forward the national tradition of service and promotion of global peace as enshrined in the country’s constitution.

On this occasion of International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers, I would like to pay tribute to the memory of the Bangladeshi peacekeepers who have made the ultimate sacrifice to ensure global peace, and commemorate those who have passed in the last year:

L Cpl Md Abdur Razzaque          Sgt Md Labu Islam
Sgt Md Miragul Islam             Sgt Md Shahidul Islam
L Cpl Md Nazrul Islam            L S M Jahangir Alam

The international community is grateful for their service, and the United Nations in Bangladesh extends our warmest sympathy to their families. I convey my sincere thanks to the Government of Bangladesh for the high priority that is given to assist the UN in maintaining global peace and stability, and hope that the Bangladesh and UN partnership continues to flourish.

ROBERT D. WATKINS