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Media Release

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Parliamentary Secretary Obhrai opens new High Commission in Dhaka

(OTTAWA) Deepak Obhrai, M.P. and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, formally opened Canada's new High Commission building complex in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

The ceremonial ribbon-cutting was carried out on Thursday, 9th July jointly by Parliamentary Secretary Obhrai and Bangladesh's State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Hasan Mahmud.

The new Canadian High Commission building in Dhaka incorporates both the Chancery and the Official Residence.

Canada established bilateral relations with Bangladesh after its independence in 1971. Built upon shared values of democracy and pluralism, relations are focused on development cooperation, trade and investment, regional security, immigration and people-to-people links.

"I believe the new building epitomises the soundness and the potential of the flourishing bilateral relationship between Bangladesh and Canada," Parliamentary Secretary Obhrai said.

He pointed out that the Bangladeshi – Canadian community is estimated at over 100,000 and continues to make significant contributions to Canadian prosperity and the multi-cultural fabric of Canada.

"Our relationship is based on a priority CIDA program, a 100,000-strong Bangladeshi diaspora in Canada, a billion dollars annually in two-way trade and ongoing diplomatic cooperation at the UN and on such key issues as climate change, the global economic crisis, human rights and refugees, peacekeeping and counter-terrorism," Parliamentary Secretary Obhrai added.

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