

## PRESS RELEASE

**“Bangladesh Armed Forces are heir to a glorious tradition”**

**—Ambassador Iftekhhar Chowdhury**

**New York, 22 November 2005:**

Dr. Iftekhhar Chowdhury, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations said that “Bangladesh Armed Forces are heir to a glorious tradition”. He was speaking at a reception hosted by the Bangladesh Mission in New York on Monday evening to mark the 34th Anniversary of Bangladesh Armed Forces Day.

This is the first time the occasion was marked by such an event by the Bangladesh Mission. “This is apt, because we are now the top contributor to UN peace-keeping after many years of association” said Ambassador Chowdhury.

The Ambassador also said: “should we feel a modicum of pride in our Armed Forces, perhaps we shall be forgiven, for there are good reasons. Our Armed Forces have had a signal contribution to the War of Liberation that brought us independence in 1971. They are in the forefront in the task of protection of our security and sovereignty. They participate in our development activities. They are foremost in UN peace-keeping. These are commitments, to which their dedication remains unflinching”.

The reception was attended by a large number of distinguished guests including Lieutenant General R K Mehta, Military Adviser to the Secretary General, diplomats, senior UN officials, military attaches and Advisers, and journalists. A number of retired Bangladeshi military personnel were also present.

Earlier the guests were formally welcomed by Brigadier General Ilyas Iftekhhar Rasul, the Military Adviser to the Mission.

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