

## **Report on the Observance of International Ozone Day, 2008**

The International Ozone Day 2008 was observed throughout Bangladesh on 16 September 2008. Observance of the Day had been as elsewhere in the world with renewed expression of solidarity with the international community to create awareness on the adverse impacts of the Ozone Layer Depletion.

The Department of Environment, Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of Bangladesh undertook various programmes on that Day including bringing out special supplements in four National Dailies in which messages of the Hon'ble President, the Hon'ble Chief Adviser, the Hon'ble Adviser for Environment and Forest and Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests were published. The special supplements also contained articles of Director General of the Department of Environment on the theme, "Montreal Protocol - Global Partnership for Global Benefits".

The Bangladesh Betar (Radio) and Bangladesh Television had broadcast the messages of the Hon'ble President and the Hon'ble Chief Adviser of the Government of Bangladesh. A discussion was held on 16 September 2008 in Bangladesh Television participated by the Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests and Director General, Department of Environment. Other Satellite Channel also organized special discussion and broadcast various TV footage on this issue.

A painting competition was organized among the children on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2008. About 600 (six hundred) children of various age groups between 3 and 16 years had participated in the competition. A nation-wide essay competition was also organized among the students from Schools to Universities on the eve of International Ozone Day on various topics.

Hon'ble President of Bangladesh Prof. Dr. Iajuddin Ahmed in his message expressed the hope that the world community would strengthen its coordinated efforts to curb use of ozone depleting substances.

The Chief Adviser Dr. Fakhruddin Ahmed in his statement said that the developing world including Bangladesh, has been working to phase-out all kind of ozone depleting substances by 2010. He also hoped that all programmes taken in Bangladesh on the eve of the day would play an important role in raising awareness among all stakeholders for protection of ozone layer.