

Press Release

Dhaka, 26 October 2017

Bangladesh Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan, MP visited Myanmar from 23-25 October 2017. During his visit, two meetings were held, *namely*, Senior Officials Meeting and Ministerial Meeting on 24 October.

2. In the senior official's meeting (24th October 2017 morning), after a thorough discussion, agreement was reached on ten-points as outcome. Afterwards, during the Ministerial meeting, deliberations were held as per agreed agenda (enclosed). During deliberations, those ten-points were tabled by the Myanmar-side for consideration and were adopted unanimously (enclosed).

3. In the evening, Myanmar arranged a Press Meet. During the meet, a "Joint Press Release" was referred to. *At the time of press conference also Bangladesh side mentioned regarding implementations of Kofi Anan Commission recommendation which were adopted in the meeting by Myanmar side.* However, a "Joint Press Release" has now been issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar (published at its facebook page at around 1630 hours, 26 October 2017). The Press Release has modified the agreed ten points and deleted reference to the full implementation of the Kofi Annan Commission recommendations for sustainable return (at 5.g).

4. Myanmar side had earlier proposed a draft "Joint Statement", which the Bangladesh side improved upon and wherein those agreed ten points were included. This was not finally agreed upon. Similarly, Myanmar proposed a "Meeting Minutes" in the evening of 24 October that Bangladesh amended as "Brief record of discussion" and handed over in the morning of 25th October. This is yet to be endorsed by Myanmar.

Confidential

**Agenda for the Bilateral Ministerial Level Meeting between
the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the People's Republic of Bangladesh**

(24-10-2017, 1400 hrs, Compound Hall, Minister's Office, Ministry of Home Affairs)

1. Introductory Programme
 - (a) Opening Remarks by H.E Lieutenant General KYAW SWE, Union Minister, Ministry of Home Affairs
 - (b) Opening Remarks by H.E Mr. Asaduzzaman Khan, Minister, Ministry of Home Affairs
2. Adopting the Agenda
3. Consideration of the outcomes of the Senior Officials Level Meeting
 - (a) Discussion by H.E Lieutenant General KYAW SWE, Union Minister, Ministry of Home Affairs
 - (b) Discussion by H.E Mr. Asaduzzaman Khan, Minister, Ministry of Home Affairs
4. Return of the displaced Myanmar Residents
5. Conclusion
 - (a) Closing Remarks by H.E Mr. Asaduzzaman Khan, Minister, Ministry of Home Affairs
 - (b) Closing Remarks by H.E. Lieutenant General Kyaw Swe, Union Minister for Home Affairs, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
6. Signing MoUs on the establishment of BLOs and Security Dialogue Cooperation at Deputy Ministerial Level by both sides
7. Photo session and End of the Meeting

[Handwritten Signature]

**Agreements at the Senior Officials Levels Meeting on Security and Law
Enforcement Cooperation between the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and
the People's Republic of Bangladesh**

(24-10-2017, 0900hrs, Horizon Lake View Hotel, Nay Pyi Taw)

1. To implement provisions of the 1980 Agreement on Border Arrangements and Cooperation for enhancing security in their borders and to conduct border relation for enhancing security in their borders and to conduct border relations peacefully;
2. To hold the Region level coordination meetings of the Border Guard Forces once every three months and host annually the central level Meeting of the Border Guard Forces at the level of Chiefs;
3. To arrange periodical structured dialogue among relevant mandated authorities under the MoU on Security Cooperation and Dialogue;
4. To arrange meeting at the Deputy Minister/Secretary level meeting once a year and hold Ministerial level as required;
5. To enhance Cooperation on combating illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs;
6. To consider signing an instrument for cooperation on counter-terrorism;
7. Myanmar affirms its commitment to immediately halt the outflow of Myanmar residents to Bangladesh, to restore normalcy in Rakhine to enable displaced Myanmar residents to return from Bangladesh at the earliest and to implement the recommendations of Kofi Annan Commission fully for sustainable return;
8. To finalize a bilateral arrangement on return of displaced persons from Rakhine State and to form a Joint Working Group (JWG) along with an agreed TOR by November 2017 to oversee all aspects of return;
9. To designate focal points/contact point at field level, mid level and central level/higher level for exchange of information, communication and bilateral coordination;
10. To enhance exchange of visits as trust building measures.