

Pakistan has fulfilled legal obligations to stranded Pakistanis: Pak envoy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Pakistan High Commissioner to Bangladesh Alamgir Babar yesterday said Pakistan has fulfilled the legal obligations to the stranded

Pakistanis in Bangladesh.

"The debate over this issue has changed in Bangladesh after a High Court verdict," he said while addressing a roundtable at Bangladesh Institute of Law and

International Affairs (Bilia) at Dhanmondi in the city.

Director of Bilia Wali-ur Rahman presided over the roundtable titled "Bangladesh-Pakistan relations".

Replying to a question, the Pakistan high commissioner said they are trying to help the stranded (Pakistani) families in Bangladesh and address the humanitarian concern of Bangladesh.

Sinha MA Sayeed, executive director of Bangladesh Institute of Leadership Security Studies, asked the high commissioner about the stance of the Pakistan government on stranded Pakistanis in Bangladesh. Babar replied, "We have fulfilled our legal obligations in this regard."

About Pakistan-Bangladesh relations, he said the relations of the two countries are rooted deeply.

He said the absence of direct shipping link is one of the impediments to trade and communication between the two countries. There is a lack of mutual awareness among business communities of the two countries, he added.

Encouraging trends are moving the Bangladesh-Pakistan relationship in a new direction to the mutual benefit of the people of the two countries, he said, adding that both countries have much to learn and gain from each other through cooperative ventures.

About South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (Saarc), he said, "There are trust deficits among the Saarc member countries."

Wali-ur Rahman said, "We will have to build trust between the two countries and only then we can make our future prosperous."

Diplomats, civil society members, members of the academia addressed the meeting among others.

Convicted criminal held in Ctg

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) arrested a convicted criminal yesterday.

The arrestee was identified as Md Shahin Delwar, 28, son of Zahir Ahmed. He was awarded 17 years of imprisonment in an arms case.

Acting on a tip-off, police raided at Nasirabad area under Khulshi and arrested Delwar.

Delwar was accused in three more cases, police said.

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