



Chiefs of Police Conference of South Asia and Neighbouring Countries Organized by INTERPOL and Bangladesh Police 12-14 March 2017

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Special Supplementary

28 Falgun 1423



PRESIDENT
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
28 Falgun 1423
12 March 2017

Message
It gives me immense pleasure to know that Bangladesh Police and INTERPOL are jointly organizing Chiefs of Police Conference of South Asia and neighboring countries on 'Regional Cooperation in Curbing Violent Extremism and Transnational Crime'. I heartily welcome the participants of the conference particularly the Chiefs of Police of South Asia and the members of INTERPOL to the historic city of Dhaka.
Terrorism and extremism undermine social, political and economic stability and ultimately threaten safety and security as a whole. It also hampers the peace and tranquility around the globe. These evils have spread over almost every region of the world including South Asia. It needs concerted efforts and transnational cooperation and collaboration to resist and combat terrorism and extremism. The Government of Bangladesh has undertaken manifold initiatives including zero tolerance policy and concerted efforts against these menacing devils with a view to rooting out terrorism from our soil. Police preparedness for counter-terrorism like the functioning of CTC and specialized training, community engagement, de-radicalization initiative, public awareness campaign and capacity building methods are also being adopted in order to combat terrorism and extremism. Law enforcing agencies have played an important role in combating emerging terrorist activities in our country.
A common platform is needed to cooperate in a prompt and effective manner to fight against terrorism and transnational crime. For strengthening intra-regional cooperation, I believe that our collective efforts should be given on cross-border infrastructure; transportation and ICT connectivity as it contribute immensely towards achieving our goal. The extremism and terrorism, I believe, not only should be combated but also be prevented and community resilience should be given topmost priority for curbing these bad menaces from the course of human civilization. Strategies coming up in this conference with better solutions of counter-terrorism issues would be a guiding force for regional leaders to fulfill their commitments. I am optimistic that the conference will bring out doable and practicable course of action to fight against extremism and transnational crime.
I extend my heartiest greetings and thanks to the hub of worldwide police communication, INTERPOL as it acts as a leverage to the operational efforts of Bangladesh Police.
I wish the Chiefs of Police Conference a grand success.
Khoda Hafez, May Bangladesh Live Forever.

Md. Abdul Hamid



MINISTER
Ministry of Home Affairs
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Message
I am highly delighted that Bangladesh Police bears the responsibility to organize the much awaited Chiefs of Police Conference of South Asia and neighboring countries on Regional Cooperation in Curbing Violent Extremism and Transnational Crime. I extend my warm greetings and best wishes to the participating countries as well as organizations and my special thanks are to Bangladesh Police for holding such a time befitting conference.
In this solemn month of our independence I remember with great respect the Founding Father of Bangladesh, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and all the freedom fighters who sacrificed their lives to free the land from subjugation. I also offer my tribute to the members of Bangladesh Police who sacrificed their lives to combat extremism.
Terrorism and extremism are now global phenomena. With the help of technological innovation and modern communication system the transnational violent extremist groups create a range of challenges in South Asia and beyond. Under the prudent leadership of the Prime Minister of the Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina, Bangladesh Police have been playing pivotal role in combating extremism. Formation of CTC unit, modernized police equipment and logistics, arrangements of specialized training and capacity building mechanism, these strengthen police capacity to contain and control violent extremism. Aligning with the vow of 'zero tolerance' by the present government, the front line law enforcement agency stands uncompromising to disrupt the evil nexus of militant's patrons, masterminds, abettors and financiers. Moreover, awareness raising campaigns for mass people are being launched with the help of community policing, public figures, religious personalities and media. All these collective efforts result into substantial success in combating terrorism.
In addition to exchanging information, developing expertise and enhancing multi-modal connectivity are now the pressing demand for expanding regional integration. We need to craft a regional strategy to combat violent extremism and transnational crime. For this purpose we need collaboration, coordination and networking among police organizations. I think this conference brings for us an opportunity to explore new areas of cooperation.
INTERPOL, the first centre of contact in police crisis makes inter-state investigative communication more smooth and effective. I sincerely acknowledge its cooperation to Bangladesh in detecting sensational cases and facilitating the arrests of proclaimed criminals under extradition treaty.
I wish the conference a great success.
Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu.
Long Live Bangladesh.

Asaduzzaman Khan, MP



SECRETARY
Ministry of Home Affairs
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Message
It gives me an immense pleasure to know that Bangladesh Police and INTERPOL are jointly organizing Chiefs of Police Conference of South Asia and Neighboring Countries on Regional Cooperation in Curbing Violent Extremism and Transnational Crime and Bangladesh takes the honor to be the host country to organize such an important and high level conference. In this auspicious moment, I would like to remember our greatest leader, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman who gave the clarion call to the people to fight against the Pakistani occupation forces to achieve the long-cherished independence.
Violent extremism and transnational crime have become a standing threat to all nations irrespective of religion, race, culture or geo-location that can ruin our potentials and future possibilities. The actors and factors of extremism are threatening political stability and mutual understanding in the region. These sorts of menace are increasing in number, range, aspiration and virulence with the quickening pace of globalization.
The government under the prudent leadership of the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is firmly determined to uproot all sorts of extremisms and transnational crime from Bangladesh. It has demonstrated strong will and made relentless efforts in preventing and countering the extremist groups from operating in Bangladesh. Newly formed Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) Unit of Bangladesh Police enhances its resources to eradicate all sorts of extremism and has succeeded to contain all of ideological and religion-based violence. As violent extremism and transnational crime have become major threats for the whole world, regional responses have become the need of the time. In persuasion of the common interests, cross border collaboration and cooperation among the neighbouring countries can open a new horizon of partnership which will tackle and eradicate all bad elements.
I believe that collaboration and support from the INTERPOL General Secretariat will make the conference prolific and successful. My heartfelt thanks to all concerned for such a gracious initiative and congratulations to Bangladesh Police for arranging the conference which will augment friendship with the neighboring countries and uplift the positive image of Bangladesh.
I welcome all the delegates and wish every success of this conference in Bangladesh.

Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed
Public Security Division

Concerted Effort in Curbing Violent Extremism and Transnational Crime

Background
Global attention has been magnetized by recent incidents related to violent extremism and transnational crime which pose substantial threats to social peace and tranquility. It pours immense pressure on law enforcing agencies and emerges as huge challenge in ensuring safety and security of common people. Regional challenges of violent extremism and transnational organized crime can be dealt efficiently with close cross-border cooperation among police organisations of South Asia and its neighbouring countries. Most of these serious crimes require instant, effective and professional cooperation among police agencies of different neighbouring countries.
Offenders have been misusing advancement of technology and communication network to carry out their unlawful activities with increased mobility and expanded impact. They are no longer confined within perimeters of national boundaries rather their unlawful alliances to gain illicit profit appear to be great impediment in efforts of law enforcement agencies of this region. Since countries of this region share a common socio-cultural and economic pattern of life, there is a need to develop a mechanism to cooperate, concerted follow-up and synchronized functioning of law enforcement agencies to deal with these offences.
Theme
Extent of threats and ways of commission of crime are constantly changing with expansion of social media and internet connectivity. Strategies to curb these types of crimes require joint collaboration of police organisations of this region. In consideration of involvement of different actors in committing crimes and gravity of the challenge, 'Regional Cooperation in Curbing Violent Extremism and Transnational Crime' has been selected as the theme of conference.
Focused Areas
Bangladesh Police adheres to 'zero tolerance' policy of the government against violent extremism and would be dauntless in its battle against militants. Experience in disrupting terrorist network through blending of hard and soft approaches can be an ideal example to be adopted by different countries of the world. Emphasize need to be given on sharing of knowledge, intelligence and adopting consolidated approach by law enforcers and relevant organizations of the world in an intrinsic manner in dealing with violent extremism and transnational crime.
Focused areas of the conference are-Counter Violent Extremism (CVE), Trafficking in Human Being, Drug Trafficking, Illegal Small Arms Trade and Financial Crime and Offences Related to Terrorist Financing.
Essence
Essence of the conference is to find ways to (a) strengthen existing relationship among law enforcement agencies and relevant organizations of the world, (b) craft a regional strategy to combat violent extremism and other types of transnational crime, (c) increase the practice of exchanging information and sharing of best practices among law enforcement agencies and (d) Develop a common platform to cooperate in prompt, effective and prolific manner at times of need to fight terrorism and transnational crimes.
Partnership
INTERPOL General Secretariat extends its cooperation and support to make the conference prolific and successful. Conference is going to be attended by Secretary General of INTERPOL along with his colleagues from INTERPOL Secretariat and INTERPOL Global Complex for Innovation (IGCI).
Chiefs of Police and Delegate
Chiefs of Police of Afghanistan, Malaysia, Myanmar and Sri Lanka are going to attend while senior delegates from Australia, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Nepal, South Korea and Vietnam are also going to attend the conference.
Head of International Criminal Investigation Training Assistance Programme (ICITAP) of USA, representatives from Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) of USA, ASIANAPOL and Facebook will also attend the conference.
Modality
During the conference, presentations would be made by Deputy Governor of Bangladesh Bank, Director General of Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS), Director of National Security Intelligence (NSI), Director of Department of Narcotics & Control (DNC) and senior police officers including Inspector General of Bangladesh Police.
Inspector General of Sri Lanka and Supervisory Special Agent of Counterterrorism Division of Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) will present papers based on their interests and expertise.
Experience and Best Practice
There will be a sharing of country experience session where the head of delegation of each country and members of organizations will share his/her experiences and best practices. Joint declaration to be made to enhance mutual cooperation in combating terrorism and transnational crimes.
Expected Outcome
The expected outcomes of the Chiefs of Police Conference of South Asia and Neighbouring Countries are (a) identification of recent trends of crimes that pose immense threats to this region, (b) develop a common strategy to combat transnational crime and violent extremism, (c) form a common platform to enhance cooperation among Chiefs of Police of the region, (d) promote exchange of information and sharing best practices to fight terrorism and transnational crime and (e) create expanded professional network and strategic alliance among law enforcement agencies of this region.
Way Forward
The world shares substantial common problems posed by terrorists and different organized groups at this point of time. Countries of this region need to work together to develop strategies to fight terrorism and transnational crime with more professionalism and efficiency. Actionable strategies and integrated approaches need to be taken by the police organizations of South Asia and its neighbouring countries to make the region a better and safer place to live and work.



PRIME MINISTER
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
28 Falgun 1423
12 March 2017

Message
I am happy to learn that the first ever 'Chiefs of Police Conference of South Asia and Neighbouring Countries on Regional Cooperation in Curbing Violent Extremism and Transnational Crime' is going to be held on 12-14 March 2017 in Dhaka. On the occasion, I extend my greetings to the organisers and delegates.
Terrorism and extremism direly affect freedom, prosperity, human rights and the future of a nation. Bangladesh boldly declares its zero tolerance policy towards terrorism and extremism. We would not allow any group or entity to use our territory for such purposes.
Massive awareness programmes involving public representatives, religious leaders, youths and common people, media and other responsible authorities have been launched to create awareness about the ill effects of terrorism and extremism.
In recent times, Bangladesh achieved considerable success with its counter terrorism strategies. Multiple initiatives like modernisation of police equipment, specialized training, formation of counter-terrorism unit and other capacity building tactics have been implemented to this effect.
Multi-sectoral approaches are needed to set a global counter-terrorism network to beat extremist insurgency as the global terrorism and its diverse modus-operandi are constantly changing with the advancement of technologies.
I hope, this conference will serve as the skylight for the fresh breath the South Asian people are yearning for.
INTERPOL provides operational and investigative supports to its member countries by maintaining a standard police communication network. It offers a number of tools and services to enhance cross border security and facilitates exchange of best practices to reach the highest operational outcome. I thankfully acknowledge the all out support and cooperation of the organization.
I wish the conference a grand success.

Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu
May Bangladesh Live Forever.
Sheikh Hasina



Message
Like other regions, South Asia is confronted with a changing terrorism threat landscape that is increasingly transnational in nature and which requires close and effective cross-border law enforcement cooperation. On behalf of INTERPOL and the international law enforcement community, I offer my appreciation to the authorities of Bangladesh for hosting the Chiefs of Police Conference of South Asia and Neighbouring Countries on Regional Cooperation in Curbing Violent Extremism and Transnational Crime.
This conference is timely. In the face of violent extremism and transnational organized crime, regional and global security cooperation have never been higher on the policing agenda. Today's evolving security landscape requires a coordinated and appropriate law enforcement response. Terrorism poses a constant threat to the peace and security of citizens globally, as tragically demonstrated by terrorist attacks in this region and worldwide in recent years. Criminals too are evolving, targeting victims they can exploit half a world away at the push of a button, using the Internet, social media and the latest advances in technology to commit cybercrimes which know no borders.
Behind many criminal activities are organized crime networks whose serious transnational crimes range from drug trafficking to people smuggling and the illicit trafficking of weapons. In light of these threats, INTERPOL has developed global strategies based on three crime programmes – counter-terrorism, cybercrime, and organized and emerging crime – to steer our activities and provide the most effective support possible to our 190 member countries.
Only by developing a strong, cohesive global security architecture with national, regional and global partners can we meet the high expectations placed on us to overcome the challenges faced by police. This conference therefore represents an excellent opportunity to shape a holistic approach to combat terrorism and transnational organized crime.
Through a comprehensive analysis of these challenges and by streamlining our efforts, a more cohesive and effective response towards them is possible.
I wish every success to this conference as together we look to deliver a safer world for all.

Jürgen STOCK
INTERPOL Secretary General



INSPECTOR GENERAL
Bangladesh Police

Message
It gives me enormous pleasure to be the part of this auspicious moment of the International Conference on Regional Cooperation in Curbing Violent Extremism and Transnational Crime being held in a joint effort of Bangladesh Police and INTERPOL in the historic city of Dhaka in the month of the independence of Bangladesh. I remember with profound respect the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, who inspired the Bengali nation to fight for freedom. I pay tribute to the martyrs along with all the freedom fighters whose sacrifices turned our dream for liberty into a reality.
Network of terrorism, extremism and crime dynamics spread over most of the countries of the world. No single national or regional authority can address them on its own. With this perspective I do believe that this conference will serve as a stepping stone towards developing stronger networks among the law enforcers across the region and beyond.
South Asia has long been confronting with a rapidly transforming terrorism and extremism threat that is transnational to a great extent. Modern technology and globalization add to its dimension and intensity as well. Human trafficking, trade of fire-arms, drug smuggling, financial crime & cybercrime have put a great threat to the regional security. It's time to acknowledge that police priorities need to be extended beyond the territorial boundary.
With the directives of Honorable Prime Minister of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, country's main law enforcement organization, police are leaving no stone unturned to fight the global evils. Throughout its ongoing fight, recently Bangladesh gained a substantive success in combating terrorism and radicalized extremism. The present government determines the work strategies against terrorism and extremism in which the State, Government and people have been integrated in her zero tolerance principle to contend these onslaughts. Community Policing, formation of Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit, increasing global connectivity and capacity building initiatives are being applied to combat the current and emerging challenges. In this regard I also thankfully acknowledge the timely cooperation of INTERPOL and other stake holders to Bangladesh Police.
Uninterrupted security and stability are our commitments to people and to achieve and retain these we should reshape our strategies to fine tune with others. Our challenges are same, so we can pursue the goal oriented outcome and shared benefits which can transform the region into a safe zone. We are hopeful that we can make this endeavor momentous.
I wish the conference a grand success.

A K M Shahidul Hoque, bpm, ppm

Courtesy :

