

**UPR WORKING GROUP –SIXTEENTH SESSION
(22 April - 3 May 2013)**

UPR of BANGLADESH– INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE

29 April 2013: 0900 – 1230 hrs

INTERVENTION BY INDIA

Mr. President,

It is a pleasure for me to extend a warm welcome to the delegation of Bangladesh led by Her Excellency, Dr. Dipu Moni, Foreign Minister of Bangladesh. We thank the delegation for the National Report and its presentation. Our deepest condolences go to the people of Bangladesh for the recent tragic loss of lives.

2. The legislative, institutional and policy reforms undertaken by the Government of Bangladesh since its first UPR amply reflect its commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights of its citizens.

3. The separation of the judiciary from the executive by amending the Code of Criminal Procedure 1898 and setting up of the country's first legal aid institution i.e. National Legal Aid Services Organisation (NLASO) to facilitate access to justice are laudable initiatives.

4. We commend Bangladesh for its progress in child survival which has put the country on track to achieve MDG4 on child mortality. The implementation of the National Women Development Policy and steps taken to implement Digital Bangladesh which seeks to democratize governance and bridge the digital divide are positive developments.

5. Bangladesh's commitment to democracy, free media and building a modern and progressive State, deserve strong appreciation by all countries. Bangladesh's

commitment to the fight against terrorism and extremism is laudable. As a close and friendly neighbour of Bangladesh, India understands the challenges that Bangladesh faces in the promotion and protection of human rights

6. We also commend the Government of Bangladesh for its efforts to maintain communal peace and harmony.

7. We wish the delegation of Bangladesh all success in this endeavour.

Thank you, Mr. President.
