PRESS RELEASE

47TH BORDER CO-ORDINATION CONFERENCE BETWEEN DIRECTOR GENERALS OF BSF AND BGB HELD AT NEW DELHI

Md. Shafeenul Islam, ndc, psc, Director General, Border Guard Bangladesh (DG BGB) led the Bangladesh delegation to India, to attend the 47th Border Co-ordination Conference between the Border Security Force, India and Border Guard Bangladesh held at New Delhi. The Indian delegation was led by Shri K K Sharma, IPS, Director General, Border Security Force (DG BSF).

2. After detail discussions on the Agenda Points, both sides agreed to adhere to the conclusions reached. Highlights of the Joint Record of Discussions are:-

(a) Appreciating the steps taken by BSF in bringing down casualties on borders, Director General BGB expressed his concern to bring it down to zero. Director General BSF stated that BSF uses non-lethal weapons on borders, with utmost restraint minimum possible force is used, even in the face of dangerous assaults by armed criminals. Violence on the border could be brought down to zero level only when the criminals/offenders are stopped crossing the IB illegally and persecuted as per law of the land. Reiterating the need for joint efforts, both sides agreed to take preventive measures.

(b) Appreciating the cooperation extended by BGB and other security agencies of Bangladesh against Indian Insurgent Groups (IIG’s), DG BSF sought further cooperation from BGB to eliminate remnant IIG’s. DG BGB informed that there is no IIG’s hideout inside Bangladesh and clarified that “Bangladesh does not allow its soil to be used by any entities or elements hostile to any country”. 
(c) It was agreed by both sides that willful violation of the sanctity of the IB would be dealt with as per respective Law of the Land and inadvertent crossers would be handed over to the concerned border guarding force immediately.

(d) Both sides agreed to take strong measures for prevention of illegal border crossing and human trafficking. Both the delegations agreed to aid victims of human trafficking and facilitate their early rescue and rehabilitation as per Law of the Land.

(e) DG BSF shown his concern about increase in smuggling of FICN. He appreciated the efforts of BGB and other security forces of Bangladesh against smuggling of fake currency note and sought further cooperation in detecting such units in Bangladesh and legal prosecution of defaulters. DG BGB replied that, Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) of Bangladesh are taking actions against Fake Currency Note (FCN) racketeers and side by side government has already placed FCN detecting machines in all Integrated Check Posts (ICPs) and many other places across the country. Both sides appreciated each other’s efforts to curb the smuggling of Fake Indian Currency Note (FICN) into India and smuggling of phensedyl and other psychotropic substances to Bangladesh and pledged to continue the efforts in this regard.

(f) Both sides expressed their satisfaction in approval of almost all pending developmental works.

(g) Both the D’sG lauded the results of crime free zone which had been introduced in South Bengal Frontier/ South West Region and agreed for its further expansion in other Frontiers/ Regions.

3. Both sides appreciated the efforts made to improve mutual relations through various agreed upon Confidence Building Measures (CBMs).

4. Both sides expressed their satisfaction over the deliberations in the conference, which was meaningful and cordial, reflecting the friendly bilateral relations between the two countries. Both sides agreed for expeditious implementation of the decisions taken in the conference. It was decided that next DG-level conference would be held in Dhaka in the month of March/ April 2019.