

Memorandum of Understanding
Between
the Government of the Republic of India
and
the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
for the Establishment of the India-Bangladesh Foundation

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh (hereinafter referred to as the "Parties")

Desiring to further provide mutual understanding and co-operation between the peoples of India and Bangladesh by a wider appreciation and greater sharing of knowledge of India-Bangladesh relations in all its aspects and the exchange of professional talent through academic and technical contacts between the two countries,

HAVE REACHED the following understanding:

ARTICLE I

There shall be established a foundation, to be known as the India-Bangladesh Foundation (hereinafter referred to as "Foundation"), with the objective of fostering India-Bangladesh relations, particularly through the enhancement of economic, scientific, educational, technical and cultural co-operation between India-Bangladesh and the promotion of greater understanding between

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the peoples of the two countries. The Foundation shall function under the forms of this Memorandum of Understanding and shall implement programmes aimed at achieving the goals thereof (hereinafter referred to as the "Memorandum")

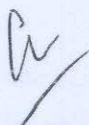
ARTICLE II

The Foundation shall be financed through revenues from a Trust Fund to be set up through grants made by the Parties. The Principal of the Trust Fund shall comprise a sum, contribution to which will be on an equitable basis to be mutually agreed upon. The said principal may be augmented through mutual consultation and confirmed through an exchange of Diplomatic Notes between the Parties.

ARTICLE III

The revenues from the Trust Fund, within the conditions and limitations hereinafter set forth, shall be used by the Foundation for the purpose of:

- i) Financing higher studies, research and other educational activities and in-service training for citizens of India and Bangladesh at institutions of learning located in India and Bangladesh;
- ii) Financing visit and exchanges between India and Bangladesh of scholars, academics, professionals, artists and experts in the fields of referred to in Article-I and such other fields as may be agreed upon by the Board of the Foundation;



- iii) Financing other related programmes and activities such as seminars, symposia, colloquia and workshops on subjects of common interests;
- iv) Contributing towards the publication of standard works on India-Bangladesh relation in specific fields as may be determined by the Foundation;
- v) Encouraging the translation of standard works of literature of Bangladesh into Indian languages and vice-versa and arranging for their publication;
- vi) Adopting any other measure which may be considered necessary for the fulfillment of the objectives of the Foundation;
- vii) As far as applicable, there will be equal participation of representatives from India and Bangladesh in the activities funded by the Foundation.

ARTICLE IV

The following shall be among the thrust areas of the activities to be carried out by the Foundation:

Education and Culture; Archaeological Studies; Agricultural Research; Science and Technology; Health; Technical Training; Development Studies and Women's Studies.



ARTICLE V

In furtherance of the aforementioned purposes, the Foundation may, subject to the provision of this Memorandum, exercise all the powers necessary for carrying the purposes of this Memorandum including the following:

- 1) Receive funds from mutually agreed sources, in addition to the initial contribution of the Parties;
- 2) Open and operate bank accounts in India and Bangladesh in the name of the Foundation;
- 3) Disburse funds and make grants and advance of funds to meet the objectives of the Foundation;
- 4) Plan, adapt and carry out programmes in accordance with the purposes of this Memorandum;
- 5) Recommend / nominate to educational institutions in India and Bangladesh trainees, professors, research scholars, leaders and professionals resident in India or Bangladesh for various programmes / courses in such institutions;
- 6) Provide for periodic audit of the accounts of the Foundation in such frequency as may be decided from time to time by either Government, by auditors nominated separately by the Parties.

ARTICLE VI

The management and direction of the affairs of the Foundation shall be vested in a Board of Directors consisting of 6 Directors (hereinafter designated as "The Board"). The High Commissioner of



India to Bangladesh and the High Commissioner of Bangladesh to India shall be the co-Chairpersons of the Board. For this purpose, in the absence of either High Commissioner, the respective Acting High Commissioners would serve as co-Chairpersons ad interim. With regard to the balance, the Parties shall each nominate two other members to the Board, both of whom shall be of recognized competence and who have distinguished themselves in fields relevant to the activities of the Foundation and who will hold office in their personal capacity. Respective High Commission officials designated by concerned co-Chairpersons shall act jointly as co-secretaries of the Foundation.

ARTICLE VII

All commitments, obligations and expenditures by the Foundation shall be made pursuant to an annual budget to be approved by the Board. The Board may, however, frame such rules as would permit the Board to incur expenditure up to specific monetary ceilings on specific projects / schemes not otherwise budgeted for. The Board will also make recommendations for necessary funding to replenish the Trust Fund.

ARTICLE VIII

The Board shall adopt such by-laws and appoint such committees as it shall deem necessary for the conduct of the affairs of the Foundation.



ARTICLE IX

A report on the activities of the Foundation shall be prepared annually by the Board and two copies shall be presented to each of the Governments through the nodal authorities.

ARTICLE X

The co-Chairpersons of the Board shall be responsible for the direction and supervision of the Board's programmes and activities in accordance with the Board's resolution and directives with the provisions of the Memorandum.

ARTICLE XI

Meetings of the Board shall be held once a year alternately in India and Bangladesh. However, the Board may, if it so desires, call for additional meetings as necessary.

ARTICLE XII

The nodal authorities responsible for the implementation of the present MOU shall be respective Foreign Secretaries of the two Governments.

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ARTICLE XIII

The present Memorandum may be amended on terms mutually agreed upon through an exchange of Diplomatic Notes between the Parties.

ARTICLE XIV

The Parties shall make every effort to facilitate the task of the Foundation and assist in the resolution of such problems which may arise in the operation thereof through bilateral discussions.

ARTICLE XV

The implementation of the present Memorandum will be without prejudice to the activities under the Programmes of Cultural Cooperation Agreement concluded between the two Governments. The Parties will endeavor to ensure to the extent feasible, that, there is no overlap of activities under the present Memorandum and the aforesaid Programme.

ARTICLE XVI

This Memorandum shall come into force upon the date of its signature and will continue to remain valid for 10 years from the date of signing. In case for any reason it is not possible to renew the Memorandum before the validity period, it will continue to be valid till a new MOU is signed or the existing one renewed. Either Party may terminate the MOU by giving at least 6 (six) months notice in advance of its intention to terminate the MOU. Termination of this



Memorandum shall not affect the validity or duration of any implementing arrangement/project executed and commenced thereunder and the activities in progress shall continue until completed.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Memorandum of Understanding.

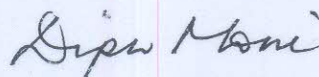
Signed at Dhaka on this Sixteenth day of February 2013, in two originals, each in Hindi, Bangla and English languages. In case of doubt in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

For the Government of the Republic
of India



(Salman Khurshid)
External Affairs Minister

For the Government of the People's
Republic of Bangladesh



(Dr. Dipu Moni)
Minister for Foreign Affairs