

**Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)**

**Between**

**The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**

**And**

**The Government of the Republic of India**

**Establishing Border Haats across the Border between Bangladesh and India**

The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and the Government of the Republic of India

*Recognizing* that 'Border Haats' aim at promoting the wellbeing of the people dwelling in remote areas across the borders of two countries, by establishing traditional system of marketing the local produce through local markets;

*Recalling* the decision of the Prime Ministers of Bangladesh and India during the visit of the Prime Minister of Bangladesh H.E. Sheikh Hasina to India from 10 to 13 January 2010 that Border Haats shall be established on a pilot basis at selected areas, including Meghalaya border to allow trade in specific produce and products and in accordance with the regulations agreed and notified by both Governments;

*Welcoming* the inauguration and running of activities in four border haats namely, Baliamari (Kurigram District, Bangladesh) - Kalaichar (West Garo Hills, India), Lauwaghar (Dalora, Sunamganj District, Bangladesh) - Balat (East Khasi Hills, India), East Madugram and Middle Place of Sagaria (Feni District, Bangladesh) - Srinagar (West Tripura, India) and Tarapur (Brahmanbaria District, Bangladesh) – Kamalasar (Sipahijala District, Tripura, India);

*Expressing* satisfaction for the fulfillment of long standing demand of the local people of the area;

*Noting* that the resulting economic activity would contribute to the economic upliftment of the people of the area surrounding the border haats; and

*Recognizing* the need for opening of more border haats in the places along Bangladesh India border as agreed by both the governments;

Have agreed as follows:

*Bashir*

*AS*

## **1. Opening of New Border Haats:**

1. Border Haats shall be established across the borders.
2. Locations for opening Border Haats may be selected jointly by India and Bangladesh based on, *inter alia*, historical location, difficulty in access, inter-dependence of the population on both sides of the border and availability of suitable location.
3. The Border Haats will be operated as per Modalities to be agreed upon between the two countries.

## **2. Joint Committee:**

A Joint Committee for Border Haats at the level of the Additional Secretary/Joint Secretary from both the countries shall review the *Border Haats* operations, suggest modifications in the operational modalities and propose new locations for *Border Haats*. The Joint Committee will also comprise officials of relevant departments from both countries. The meeting of the Joint Committee will be held every year, or earlier as would be mutually decided.

## **3. Validity:**

This MoU shall be valid for 5 (five) years with effect from the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2013. It shall automatically be extended for successive tenures of 5 (five) years unless either Government terminates the MoU by giving a written notice of its intention to terminate to the other Government at least six months before the end of such a term. In case of termination, it shall cease to operate on the expiry of the respective term. But termination shall not affect the actions taken or MoUs reached pursuant to this MoU.

## **4. Suspension of MOU:**

Any party may suspend the operation of this MOU by giving 30 days advance notice in writing.

## **5. Amendments:**

This MoU may be modified, reviewed or amended with the mutual consent by means of any implementing arrangements or additional protocols, which will be an integral part of this MoU.

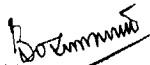
*Basim*

*RS*

Signed at New Delhi on this 8th day of April 2017 in English, in two originals, both being equally authentic.

For Ministry of Commerce,  
Government of the People's Republic  
of Bangladesh

For Ministry of Commerce and  
Industry,  
Government of the Republic of India



.....  
Secretary-in-Charge



.....  
Commerce Secretary