



## **Press Release**

Minister for Foreign Affairs, Hon. Mr. Mahendra Bahadur Pandey paid a three day visit to Bangladesh from 12-14 October 2014. The Foreign Minister called on Prime Minister of Bangladesh H.E. Sheikh Hasina at her official residence Gonobhaban in Dhaka yesterday and handed over the invitation extended by Prime Minister Rt. Hon. Sushil Koirala to participate in the 18<sup>th</sup> SAARC Summit being held in Kathmandu in November this year.

On the occasion, the Hon. Minister expressed that Nepal feels deeply honoured to host the SAARC summit for the third time in Kathmandu and stated that the summit is being held at an important juncture of SAARC, which will complete its landmark journey of 30 years in the coming year. During the meeting, matters relating to further strengthening the bilateral relations between Nepal and Bangladesh in such important areas trade, transit, connectivity, tourism promotion, and sub-regional cooperation in hydropower development and water resources management were also discussed.

Earlier yesterday, the Hon'ble Foreign Minister held a courtesy meeting with H.E. Mr. A.H. Mahmood Ali, Foreign Minister of Bangladesh. Matters pertaining to bilateral and regional issues including the upcoming SAARC Summit were discussed during the occasion. Hon. Pandey also invited the Foreign Minister to visit Nepal for participation at the Session of SAARC Council of Ministers being held in Kathmandu prior to the Summit.

The Foreign Minister of Bangladesh H.E. Mr. AH Mahmood Ali hosted a dinner in honor of the Hon. Foreign Minister of Nepal in the evening of 12 October 2014.

Ambassador H.E. Mr. H.K. Shrestha hosted a dinner yesterday in honour of the Hon. Foreign Minister. Several Ambassadors and senior diplomats of SAARC and BIMSTEC member states, as well as those of several SAARC observer states based in Dhaka attended the event.

The Hon. Foreign Minister left Dhaka for Paro, Bhutan this morning. He was seen off at the Shah Jalal International Airport by the Ambassador of Nepal, the Ambassador of Bhutan and senior officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Bangladesh.

**Embassy of Nepal Dhaka**  
**14 October 2014**