



Seminar on

## **Changing Global Dynamics: Bangladesh Foreign Policy**

**10 January 2018**

### PRESS RELEASE

Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS) organised a Seminar titled **Changing Global Dynamics: Bangladesh Foreign Policy** on 10 January 2018 at BISS auditorium. The Seminar was divided into two sessions. **H E Mr Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali, MP**, Honourable Foreign Minister, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, graced the Inaugural Session as the Chief Guest. In his speech he noted that economic aspects have always been at the forefront in setting the foreign policy priorities of Bangladesh. To that end the present government has taken all necessary steps and has given highest significance to regional connectivity and trade. **Major General A K M Abdur Rahman**, ndc, psc, Director General, BISS, delivered the presentation on "Changing Global Dynamics: Bangladesh Foreign Policy". **Ambassador Munshi Faiz Ahmad**, Chairman, Board of Governors, BISS, chaired the Inaugural Session.

**H E Mr Md Shahriar Alam, MP**, Honourable State Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, was present as the Special Guest of the Seminar and as the Chief Guest of the Working Session. He mentioned that under the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, the present government of Bangladesh has been promoting such a foreign policy that is keen to advocate its national interest and image, economic development and self-ideology. He described different foreign policy related initiatives of the present government and noted that the government has achieved tremendous success in meeting important socio-economic goals of Bangladesh. In the Working Session **Professor Dr Imtiaz Ahmed**, Department of International Relations, University of Dhaka, gave a presentation on "Politico-Strategic Aspects and Bangladesh Foreign Policy", **Dr Ahsan Mansur**, Executive Director, Policy Research Institute of Bangladesh (PRI) presented on "Economic Development and Bangladesh Foreign Policy", **Dr Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad**, Chairman, Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) spoke on "Climate Negotiation and Bangladesh Foreign Policy" and **Professor Dr Tasneem Siddiqui**, Department of Political Science, University of Dhaka, presented on "Global Human Movement and Humanitarian

Issues". The Working Session was chaired by **Ambassador Muhammad Zamir**, former Chief Information Commissioner of Bangladesh Government. **Mr Md Shahidul Haque**, Foreign Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, summed up the Session. While summing up, he mentioned key aspects of Bangladesh foreign policy amidst the changing global dynamics. Distinguished speakers and presenters of the Seminar noted that Bangladesh's core national interests that determine the country's foreign policy are consolidation and preservation of sovereignty, territorial integrity and security, continued and sustained socio-economic development enabling progressively better life for the people, Bangladesh's self-esteem and image abroad. The speakers emphasised on bilateral and multilateral cooperation and partnership building to resolve the economic and security vulnerabilities of the country.

Senior officials from different ministries of Bangladesh, representatives from different organisations, ambassadors, media, academia, researchers, teachers and students from various universities participated in the open discussion and expressed their valuable opinions and observations on the topic.