

Phone: (202) 244-5071
Fax : (202) 244-2771/7830
E-mail: press.bew@gmail.com
Website : www.bdembassyusa.org



EMBASSY OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
3510 International Drive, NW
Washington, D.C. 20008

PRESS RELEASE

8 September 2016

Bangladesh to Defeat Terrorism: Ambassador tells US Congresswomen

Bangladesh Ambassador to the United States Mohammad Ziauddin met with Congresswoman Grace Meng (D-NY) and Congresswoman Kathleen Rice (D-NY) separately today (Thursday) at their offices at Capitol Hill and discussed issues of mutual interests including fight against extremism, women empowerment and duty free quota free access of Bangladeshi goods to the US market.

The Ambassador briefed the Congresswomen on the excellent Bangladesh-US bilateral relations.

He said that the present government under Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has vowed “zero tolerance” against all forms of extremism and terrorism. Bangladesh under Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is working closely with the US, neighbors and other friendly countries to eliminate extremism and terrorism from Bangladesh and even beyond. In this connection, he mentioned about the existing cooperation between Bangladesh and the USA in intelligence sharing and other capacity building measures to eliminate the extremist elements from Bangladesh.

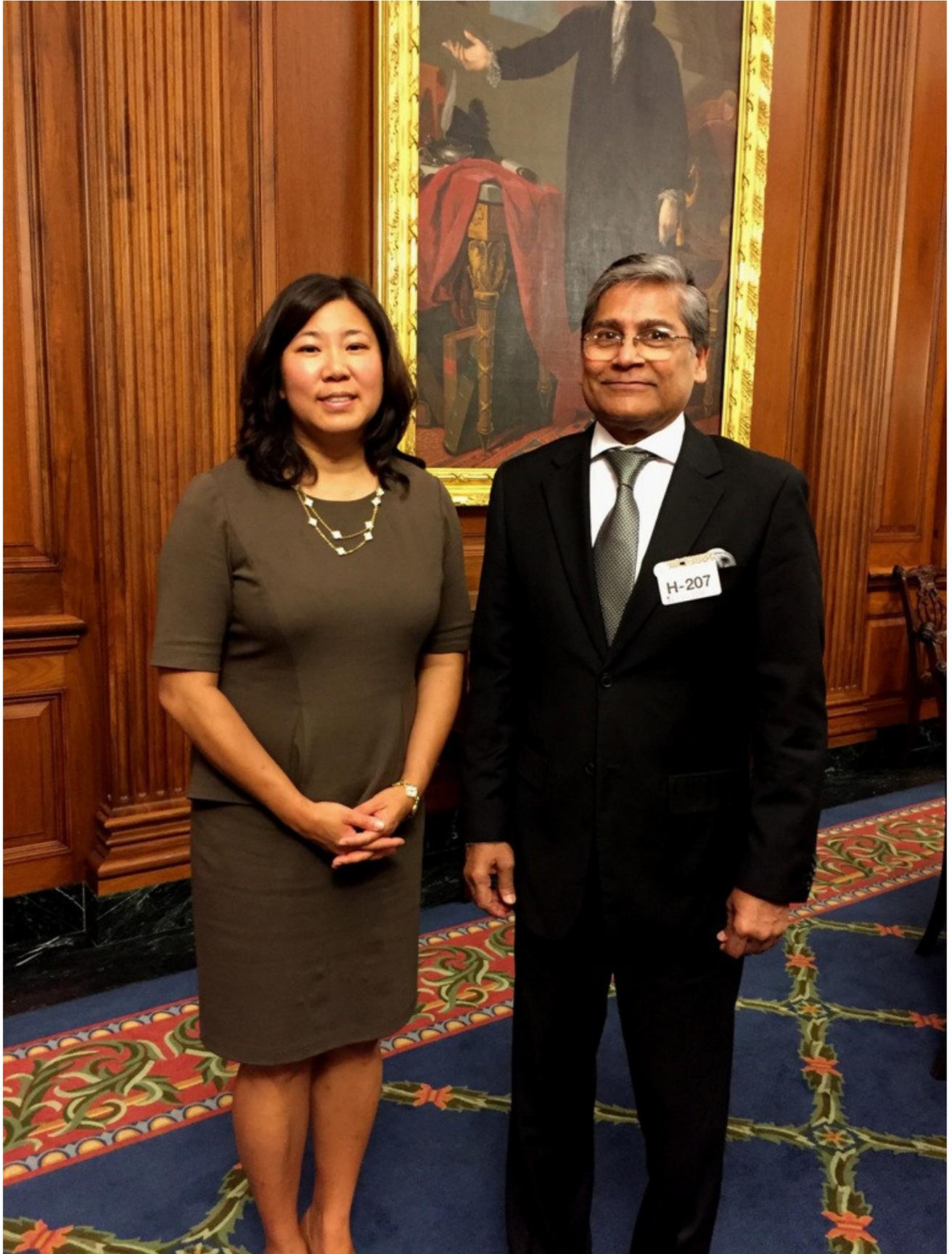
On the political front, the Bangladesh Ambassador briefed the Congresswomen about the brutal killing of the country's founding father Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and his family members, continuous struggle of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to fulfill her slain father's dream, numerous assassination attempts on her life including the terrible grenade attack of 2004, and the recent terrorist activities in Bangladesh.

The Ambassador also informed that the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's government is relentlessly working on education and women empowerment in the country. He said that the government has modernized the madrasah education curriculum so that the students can well adapt with the mainstream society and thus can get rid of the religious extremism. About women empowerment, the Ambassador mentioned that Bangladesh is a unique country where the prime minister, the leader of the opposition, the parliament speaker and a number of ministers are women. Besides, 90% of the 4 million workers in the RMG industry are women, who have stepped out of their homes, contributing to poverty alleviation, literacy, and above all weakening extremism and reinforcing government's efforts to eliminate extremism and terrorism.

Ambassador Ziauddin sought US support for duty free quota free market access for all LDCs including Bangladesh to the US market. He highlighted that the European Union is providing duty free quota free access to all LDCs, but the US is providing this facility only to 34 African LDCs out of 48 LDCs. Therefore, there is a sense of deprivation and injustice among the other LDCs, which the USA should take into consideration, he added.

Both the Congresswomen thanked the Ambassador for the briefing on Bangladesh. Mr. Toufique Hasan, Counsellor (Political) of the Embassy accompanied the Ambassador during the meetings.

Minister (Press), Embassy of Bangladesh, Washington DC 20008, Phone: 202-244-5071,
Fax: 202-244-2771/7830, e-mail: press.bew@gmail.com / bdootpwash15@gmail.com



With Congresswoman Ms. Grace Meng (D-NY)



With Congresswoman Ms. Kathleen Rice (D-NY)