CIRCULAR NO.: 519 CONFIDENTIAL

No. 25020/15/2012-F-1 Government of India Ministry of Home Affairs (Foreigners Division)

> Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, India Gate New Delhi, dated the 11th October, 2018

To

1. All Indian Missions/ Posts

All State Governments/ UT Administrations

 FRROs- Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Amritsar, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Kochi, Thiruvananthapuram, Calicut, Goa, Lucknow and Ahmedabad.

Subject: Amendment to Chapter 20 of the Visa Manual pertaining to Bangladesh Nationals and Appendix –I of the Visa Manual

Sir,

Please refer to Chapter 20 of the Revised Visa Manual pertaining to Bangaldesh nationals and Appendix – I of the Visa Manual.

- 2. It has come to the notice of this Ministry that there is a discrepancy with regard to provisions relating to prior clearance of MHA for Bangladeshi nationals visiting Protected/ Restricted Area in the Visa Manual. In para 28.1(5) in Chapter 28 of the Visa Manual pertaining to Protected and Restricted Areas, Bangladesh is not included in the list of countries whose nationals would require prior approval of MHA for grant of Protected Area Permit (PAP) or Restricted Area Permit (RAP). However, in para 20.4 of Chapter 20 of the Visa Manual pertaining to Bangladesh nationals and at S.No.15 in Appendix-I of the Visa Manual, it has inadvertently been provided that a prior reference shall be made to MHA where a Bangladesh national intends to visit a place which has been declared as a Restricted/ Protected/ Cantonment areas.
- 3. The matter has been examined in this Ministry. It has accordingly been decided, with the approval of the competent authority, to amend the provisions in Chapter 20 Bangladesh Nationals and Appendix –I of the Visa Manual, as follows:-
 - (A) Existing para 20.4 is substituted by the following:-

"20.4 Prior Reference:

A prior reference shall be made to MHA in cases where the Bangladesh national is a serving/ retired personnel of Military/semi-military, police/ semi-police, security and/or intelligence organization."

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(B) Existing entries in the third column against S.No.15 in Part (B) of Appendix - I is substituted by the following:-

"Where the Bangladesh national is a serving/ retired personnel of Military/semi-military, police/ semi-police, security and/or intelligence organization."

- All other provisions in Chapter 20 and Appendix -I of the revised Visa Manual would remain unchanged and continue to be in effect.
- These instructions shall come into force with immediate effect. 5.

Yours faithfully

(Pramod Kumar) Director (Foreigners) Tele No. 23077508

Copy to:

- Ministry of External Affairs [Shri Amrit Lugun, Joint Secretary (CPV)] with the request to circulate these instructions to all Indian Missions and Posts.
- Ministry of External Affiars, [Shri Vikram Doraiswami, Joint Secretary (BM)], New Delhi.
- Ministry of Tourism (Shri Suman Billa, Joint Secretary), Transport Bhawan, New Delhi.
- Bureau of Immigration (Shri Rajiv Ranjan Verma, Joint Director) with the request to circulate these instructions to all FRROs/ FROs.
- 5. Director, Cabinet Secretariat.
- DDG, NIC- with a request to place this Circular in the online Notice Board of C. Visa and C. FRO

(Pramod Kumar) Director (Foreigners)

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(Pramod Kumar) Director (Foreigners)