



To

**HE Mr. Imran Ahmad
Honourable Minister for Overseas Welfare,
Peoples Republic of Bangladesh
Dhaka, Bangladesh**

Dear Sir,

27 October 2021

Subject : Meeting of Voice for Global Bangladeshis (VfGB), with stranded Bangladeshis in France. :

On 24th October 2021 a number of Bangladeshis from France had a zoom meeting with the Executives of Voice for Global Banglaeshis (VfGB).

The meeting was chaired by VfGB's President Dr. Hasanat Mohammad Husain MBE. The meeting was coordinated by journalist Mr. Abdul Mumit Rumel, VfGB representative in France, .

Many speakers while explaining their fear that very soon their legality of staying in France will come to an end mainly due to the lack of response or willingness to issue or extend Bangladeshi passports from Bangladesh Embassy in Paris.

Most complained that they do not even receive any acknowledgement from the Bangladesh Embassy explaining what action are being undertaken upon receipt of their applications..

Some explained that in France, up to the age of 18, one is treated as documented or legal and therefore, the 'underageds' become French Government's responsibility ie they are admitted to language course, given jobs, shelter etc.up to the age of 18. And, before or nearly after reaching the age of 18 (according to whatever papers they submitted on arrival), the French Government/Employers express willingness to issue, these Bangladeshis, permanent residencies provided they can produce valid Bangladeshi Passports.

Journalist Mr. Imran Mahmud, present in the zoom meeting said that there may be more than 4000 such 'underage' Bangladeshis in France now fallen into this trap.

VfGB feels that BD Ambassador in France and his/her office will have better picture of this complicated but humanitarian task.

If these 3/4 thousand people can be helped in a credible and dignified way, 3/4 thousand families in Bangladesh will survive and the remittance sent, will reach BD treasury to further strengthen Bangladesh's economy.



On behalf of VfGB, Dr. Hasanat Husain MBE has assured the stranded Bangladeshis in France, that VfGB will do its utmost to bring this matter to the attention of Bangladesh Government urging them to take up the cases of French Bangladeshis as a matter of priority.

Dr. Hasanat Husain has also assured the participating Bangladeshis that he will open up a dialogue with the Bangladesh Minister for 'Overseas Welfare' to help resolve the issue.

Excellency, we have included the following on line link that has appeared in Bengali on 26th October 2021, for your understanding and, kind information :

<https://banglastatement.com/2021/10/26/137596/> :

We shall, therefore, be very grateful if you can kindly look into the matter and instruct the Bangladesh Embassy in Paris to do the needful to help these stranded Bangladeshis as much as possible, within the existing rules that allows for any changes/corrections in names, ages etc.in their applications for passports.

With our best regards.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Hasanat Mohammad Husain MBE

On behalf of Voice for Global Bangladeshis..

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