To give a synopsis of the global dynamics in 2017, the message of the Secretary General of the UN can be recalled because he is the top most diplomat. In his message, the world’s scenario has been narrated, prescribed and portrayed based on the events of 2017. According to the message, “Conflicts have deepened and new dangers have emerged. Global anxieties about nuclear weapons are the highest since the cold war. Climate change is moving faster than we are. Inequalities are growing. We see horrific violations of human rights. Nationalism and xenophobia are on the rise.” When the Secretary General of UN was asked how these are to be solved, he answered that the world needs greater unity to solve these challenges.

If we look at what happened during 2017, the most important thing would be that the forces and factors of globalisation—the rallying point of the last few decades, all of a sudden appeared as something which is counter-productive. It created a paradox not only for the economists but also for the foreign policy practitioners. In terms of globalisation,
there are two kinds of paradoxes. Firstly, it forced integration in every sphere of the world. Secondly, the rise of populism and ultranationalism. All the forces that united the world all of a sudden found lack of promoters and that was manifested in a number of places. For example, people who created WTO after an exercise of 100 years and thought that it would be the best means to regulate trade for the benefit of all, all of a sudden abandoned it. The new regime of US abandons not only multilateralism, but also pluralism and prefers bilateralism to make a country great. This leads to the redundancy of previous structures and understandings like the WTO. Now people are putting more importance to World Economic Forum (WEF) than on WTO. The presence of Donald Trump in the Forum surprised everyone. By doing this, the leader of the free world is giving message that the world is a fractured world. Everybody remains very worried about it.

There are three types of realities within which foreign policy is adopted. These are reality, virtual reality and augmented reality. This creates much problem for countries like Bangladesh than for the developed countries because developed countries have infrastructures to separate truth from a lie. Thus, Bangladesh has problems not only with Rohingyas but also with global politics.

The philosophy of foreign policy given by the Father of the Nation continued to remain a rallying point. Bangladesh’s foreign policy has four pillars: pragmatism is the first pillar. Foreign policy practitioners are pragmatic. When they take any decision on where to go, whom to support, whom to give vote in favour or against—they are not guided by realism, liberalism or idealism rather they are guided by pragmatism. It gives Bangladesh’s foreign policy flexibility and balance.

Peace and stability is the second pillar of Bangladesh’s foreign policy and lies at the centre of it. It covers military diplomacy, peacekeeping, peace building and peacemaking. Bangladesh is going to set up a Peace Building Centre. Innovativeness is the third principle of Bangladesh’s foreign policy. For example, the WTO seems to be gradually losing its importance. Within the WTO, Bangladesh has not been able to make
its presence yet. Bangladesh is moving out of LDC which gives lot of prominence in the negotiations. It is now looking forward to WEF.

Humanitarianism is the fourth principle of foreign policy. In the international fora, whenever any humanitarian or human right issue came, Bangladesh has been in the lead and it comes from the fundamental values of 1971 for which the country fought.

In terms of pragmatism and foreign policy, Bangladesh did five things and footprints of these are seen in the foreign policy manifestation. Firstly, Bangladesh maintained broader and deeper engagement with the EU over the last two years. Bangladesh has created special relation with some of the EU countries (not all the EU countries), e.g., Germany, France, UK, Netherland and Sweden, as those also have interest on Bangladesh. Secondly, Bangladesh is building strategic relationship with Asian countries. Bangladesh has strategic relations with China and India. The joint statement with India said that Bangladesh has beyond strategic relations with India. The joint statement with China said that Bangladesh has strategic relations with China. Thirdly, Bangladesh is enhancing maritime cooperation and blue economy. Bangladesh realised that its foreign policy exercise is only land-focused and land-based. Now it is shifting to that foreign policy. Ocean is equally important. Bangladesh is currently working with the EU to build a new strategy in order to preserve, protect and sustainably exploit ocean resources. Fourthly, the country is strengthening its relations with the Islamic world. Bangladesh realised that it needs to do something to give a spark to its relations with the Islamic world. For this reason, Bangladesh convened the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) meeting after a long time. It puts Bangladesh immediately into the OIC radar. Fifth, Bangladesh has been able to maintain sustaining engagement in multilateral fora, especially at the UN.

However, there are several issues that need to be given special emphasis in 2018. They are Rohingya issue, climate change and water. With regards to climate change and water issues, a three-month long
certificate course would be run with the help of Harvard University on climate change and water issues to build capacity and expertise among the officials in the Foreign Office. The present generation is somehow lost in capacity than previous generation on water issue and water negotiation. But that capacity is needed to have negotiation on the treaties again that we have and on Teesta river treaty. Water is an extremely important issue. Bangladesh is trying to build its capacity in 2018 to negotiate on water issues and to lead in water issue.

With regard to migration and humanitarian issue, Foreign Office would be running a humanitarian course for all on humanitarian diplomacy. In terms of sustaining global peace and peace building, the Director General of BIJSS is leading currently the development of the Peace Building Centre. A curriculum is also developed with the help of international support for elaborating a fast ever course on peace building. Hopefully, the Prime Minister will inaugurate it. A three-storied building is acquired in Agargaon where Peace Building Centre was set up.

Finally, Bangladesh had shied away from negotiating FTA with other countries. It is one of the very few countries in the world that does not have a single FTA with another country. For the last two years, Bangladesh is trying to activate the process. Some work has been done and still lots need to be done. Currently, Bangladesh is negotiating with Sri Lanka and China which should have been started years back.
ANNEX
The changing global scenarios create a complex and interesting situation for a country like Bangladesh, which put friendship and adherence to international laws and integrity of state sovereignty in the apex of its guiding principles for conducting foreign relations. In the context of this changing global dynamics, Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BIISS) organised a Seminar on Changing Global Dynamics: Bangladesh Foreign Policy on 10 January 2018 at BIISS auditorium, Dhaka. The principal objective of the seminar was to contribute to the existing academic and policy discourses regarding Bangladesh’s foreign policy.

Mr Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali, MP, Honourable Foreign Minister, Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh, graced the
Changing Global Dynamics: Bangladesh Foreign Policy

Inaugural Session as the Chief Guest. **Mr Md Shahriar Alam, MP,** Honourable State Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), 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. **Mr Md Shahidul Haque,** Foreign Secretary, Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh, summed up the Working Session. **Ambassador Munshi Faiz Ahmad,** Chairman, Board of Governors (BoG), BIISS presided over the Inaugural Session and **Ambassador Muhammad Zamir,** former Chief Information Commissioner chaired the Working Session.

**Ambassador Munshi Faiz Ahmad** commenced the Inaugural Session by noticing that 10 January was the day of the return of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the Father of the Nation, to independent Bangladesh. He presented the seminar as a tribute to the Father of the Nation, who was the architect of Bangladesh’s foreign policy. He recalled Bangabandhu’s early works for constructing Bangladesh’s foreign relations and foreign policy. He regretted that the assassination of the Father of the Nation resulted in a complete change of direction in Bangladesh’s foreign policy and many years of confusion and lack of direction. He acclaimed the role of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, the worthy daughter of the Father of the Nation, for bringing Bangladesh’s foreign policy back on track. He concluded his remarks by saying that Bangladesh has successfully garnered cooperation and assistance from its partners to ensure steady socioeconomic development. The country is now playing a leading role in many international dialogues and forums, such as WTO and related negotiations, negotiations on climate, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), migration, Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), human rights, UN peace missions, etc. He opined that all these have contributed significantly to consolidate and preserve the country’s sovereignty, territorial integrity and security.

**Major General A K M Abdur Rahman, ndc, psc,** Director General, BIISS, in his presentation, said that since the turn of the 21st century, the world has been witnessing major shifts in the global political
landscape. He shed light on how rapid economic prosperity is taking place in large part of the world at a high environmental cost. He informed that a record 65.6 million people are currently displaced globally due to violent conflicts. He mentioned the recent influx of Rohingyas and the failure of the international community to prevent the persecution of a whole community. In this regard, General Rahman argued that Bangladesh stands at a crossroad where its foreign policy needs to be prepared by taking all these changed global scenarios into consideration. In order to outline the politico-strategic aspects of Bangladesh’s foreign policy, General Rahman sketched the current global politico-strategic scenario. He highlighted how multiple centres of power are emerging in the global political landscape due to the beginning of shifting of power from the US. In this context, he stated that the main challenge for Bangladesh’s foreign policy will be to adjust to this paradigmatic shift. Regarding economic development and its relations with Bangladesh’s foreign policy, General Rahman said that to keep the momentum of development, Bangladesh needs to secure the opportunities of the globalisation while mitigating its emerging threats. Concerning climate change and related negotiations, General Rahman said that the stake for Bangladesh in climate negotiation is huge as it is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change. According to him, Bangladesh needs to give more importance to climate negotiation and develop stronger partnerships to push for enforceable actions and gain access to resources and technology to develop the capacity to effectively address its climate vulnerabilities. While speaking on global human movement and humanitarian issues, General Rahman commented that today’s humanitarian institutions are in dire need of reform. As the latest example of this problem, he mentioned the recent Rohingya influx into Bangladesh. General Rahman urged that the changing global dynamics require revisiting Bangladesh’s foreign policy perspectives in the 21st century.

Mr Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali, MP, Honourable Foreign Minister, Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh, in his address as
the chief guest said that the change of power in the US affected the lives of people all over the world, particularly when it decided to opt out from major international understanding, such as, the Paris climate deal. According to him, the latest controversial move by the US was to recognise Jerusalem as Israel’s capital, defying the UN Security Council resolutions against it. He opined this was a significant blow to the Middle East peace process in which the US itself was a major broker. Among other notable events of 2017, he touched upon the Saudi Arabia’s leadership role in matters of concern for the Islamic world and its sponsorship of the first-ever Islamic alliance against terrorism; the lack of unity of the Muslim World that reflected through the incident of blockade against Qatar; Britain’s exit from the EU popularly known as Brexit; and the US retreat from multilateralism, and so on. On the positive side, the Foreign Minister also identified several important developments that took place in 2017, especially how countries are taking the lead in various thematic issues to ensure the survival of the global understanding. He said that France is taking the lead role in climate diplomacy, while countries like Bangladesh and Germany have created examples of humanitarian diplomacy by sheltering forcibly displaced persons from other countries. Regarding the contemporary foreign policy of Bangladesh, he said that the country advocates for balanced and good neighbourly relations with all neighbouring countries in South and Southeast Asia. Bangladesh enjoys the best of its relations with its largest neighbour, India. On Bangladesh’s development pursuit and regional integration, the Honourable Minister noted that Bangladesh’s participation in various connectivity initiatives like BBIN, BCIM, etc., not only helped the country protect its national interests, but also contributed to the regional peace and stability. Multilateralism, particularly through the UN system, remained Bangladesh’s diplomatic strengths where Bangladesh engages as an active voice in various normative and policy making initiatives. He mentioned that Bangladesh has maintained its success in promoting international peace and security through peacekeeping and peacebuilding activities. In the final part of his speech, the Honourable Minister outlined the vision of Bangladesh’s foreign policy in the
coming days. He said that a key foreign policy of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is to situate Bangladesh at the international setting as a responsible and responsive state. This has aptly been manifested in her ‘Vision 2021’, ‘Vision 2041’, and the ambitious ‘Digital Bangladesh’ campaign that dreams to transform Bangladesh into a knowledge-based society. He asserted that Bangladesh will continue to maintain its peace-centric and sustainable development focused approach in the international forum.

Four papers were presented in the working session.

Dr Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad, Chairman, Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF), in his presentation, discussed the importance of understanding the relationship between Bangladesh’s foreign policy and climate negotiation. He highlighted the nature of international climate change negotiations and Bangladesh’s contribution to those. He recalled examples of Bangladesh’s notable contribution in the negotiations for preparing documents of Rio+20 conference and raising the issue of climate change induced displacement in CoP 16. He opined that apart from contributing in the climate negotiations, the Bangladesh government needs to focus on Green Climate Fund (GCF) negotiations. In this context, Bangladesh needs to make diplomatic efforts to access the climate fund. He informed that the money from GCF will be given for climate change mitigation and adaptation and noted that instead of mitigation, Bangladesh’s priority is adaptation. Therefore, he suggested the Bangladesh government to watch over the GCF negotiations and confirm the fund for its adaptation purposes.

Professor Dr Imtiaz Ahmed, Department of International Relations, University of Dhaka, in his presentation, focused primarily on the complex psychological exercise that diplomacy manifests, particularly with reference to Bangladesh and the changing global dynamics. Throughout his deliberation, Professor Ahmed explained Bangladesh’s foreign policy in light of three circles of contemporariness. The first circle was 1971 which had a lasting impact on the minds of the people of Bangladesh and almost creating an epistemological break when it
comes to their understanding of past, present, and future. The second circle is globalisation which helps Bangladesh. Professor Ahmed said that two things have practically reproduced Bangladesh’s economy and both of them are related to globalisation. First one is the remittances from the diaspora, which was US$12.7 billion in 2017; and another one is, the RMG sector, currently, in which, the country stands second in the world after China, and accounted for US$34.8 billion in 2017. Linking the second circle of contemporariness with the first circle, Professor Ahmed said that as a nation, Bangladeshi people fear both closeness and alienation. On the first, they try to maintain a distance, while on the latter, they try to reach out as much as they can. India and China (and now Myanmar) are good examples of the first and second, respectively. The third circle of contemporariness is the Rohingya exodus. According to Professor Ahmed, this issue will not go away even with successful bilateralism between Bangladesh and Myanmar. This is also the place where the US and the West are destined to play a productive role, he opined. Professor Ahmed reiterated the importance of these three circles of contemporariness and said that one can make the best use of them not by focusing on the theory of scarcity (not what Bangladesh has less, as it would reproduce the ‘collective unconscious’ bordering on dystopia even further), but on the theory of abundance (what it has more). He concluded by saying that Bangladesh will thrive only if it creatively combines the various aspects of diplomacy—both as an art and as a science, both as an issue of political-economy as well as a matter of mind or soul.

**Dr Ahsan H Mansur**, Executive Director, Policy Research Institute of Bangladesh, in his presentation, said that the fastest economic transformation in the recorded history has taken place in Asia, led by China and to a lesser extent by other countries like India and Bangladesh. In this context, he discussed various challenges that Bangladesh is facing in its economic interaction with other countries. According to him, the readjustment of Bangladesh’s foreign policy is a necessity for the preparation of the country’s graduation from LDC to developing country and subsequent alternative market access arrangements. Dr Mansur also observed that Bangladesh lacked
support from India and China during the Rohingya crisis because they had far more economic interest in Myanmar than Bangladesh. He suggested that Bangladesh should try to integrate itself in the regional economic scene and keep a balance between India and China for securing its long-term economic interests.

**Professor Dr Tasneem Siddiqui**, Department of Political Science, University of Dhaka, at the outset of her presentation, described voluntary and forced migration as two of the most important global issues of the 21st century. Although migration has both positive and negative impacts on the society, invariably it gets highly politicised, criminalised and securitised. Refugee crisis in Europe and the arrival of the ‘boat people’ has created a global impression that ‘migration is threatening to spin out of control’ and immediate actions are needed to be taken to curtail the uncontrollable influx of migrants. In this context, she said that Bangladesh has to formulate its foreign policy by keeping in mind the dual interest as a labour sending as well as refugee receiving country. Pursuing such balanced role is a major foreign policy challenge for Bangladesh. In her presentation, she discussed on recent global human mobility both forced and voluntary and its implication for Bangladesh’s foreign policy. Dr Siddiqui identified few major challenges that Bangladesh faces in governing migration. She said that global migration governance is complex and multidimensional. Therefore, global regimes are yet to produce any meaningful outcome that is binding in nature for the nation states. She identified the Rohingya issue as the most important and immediate challenge for Bangladesh foreign policy. While talking about Bangladesh’s performance in dealing with the Rohingya issue, she said that Bangladesh has successfully secured commitment for relief from the international community. However, there is a general consensus that so far bilateralism has failed to produce the desired outcome. Hence, according to Professor Siddiqui, along with bilateralism, multilateralism should be pursued strongly.

Senior officials from different ministries of Bangladesh, representatives from different organisations, ambassadors, media, academia,
researchers, teachers and students from various universities were present in the seminar and participated in the open discussion.

**Brigadier General (Retd) M Shakhawat Hossain, ndc, psc**, former Election Commissioner of Bangladesh, added a new dimension to the overall discussion of the seminar as he described military diplomacy as the required instrument of Bangladesh's foreign policy. To elaborate his argument General Hossain identified Bangladesh's successes in international peacekeeping operations in Africa, Balkan region, the Middle East and the Central Asia. Over a long period of time, Bangladesh has been one of the top troop contributing countries in the world. According to General Hossain, this prowess in peacekeeping has unlocked doors of opportunities in trade and investment sectors in Africa. As both China and the US are scrambling for Africa in strengthening their foothold in the continent, he expressed his doubt whether Bangladesh has the preparedness to exploit economic opportunities in Africa that has been created by the UN peacekeeping missions in this continent. Therefore, he urged to include military diplomacy as one of the vital cogs in the wheel of Bangladesh foreign policy.

At the commencement of his remark **Ambassador Shafiullah** identified the manpower sector as one of the biggest sectors for Bangladesh's foreign currency earning as its almost US$13 billion industry. He disagreed with Professor Siddiqui as he does not think MoFA should be held responsible for the problems that the expatriates community face. Rather, Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment and Ministry of Home Affairs are responsible for the welfare of the expatriate community. He argued, informal migration is a problem that cannot be resolved by diplomatic missions in abroad, rather it has to be addressed at home.

**Ambassador Mohsin Ali Khan**, former High Commissioner of Bangladesh to Canada, stressed on human resource development to expand its labour market. He had a question to Dr Mansur regarding the impact of market liberalisation on Bangladesh's industries.
Ambassador Khan emphasised the need to develop the infrastructural capacity (e.g. gas and electricity) in order to bring more investments.

**Ambassador Shahed Akhter**, former Principal, Foreign Service Academy, stressed on having in depth discussion regarding the poor intra-regional trade among SAARC countries. As Bangladesh focused more towards the East, he argued that SAARC should receive considerable policy priority than any other region.

**Ambassador Iftekharul Karim** commented that the foreign policy edifice that was constructed after 1971 seems to have been overlooked in recent times. With regard to migration said that there is a need to distinguish between migration from Bangladesh or into Bangladesh as opposed to labour export from Bangladesh.

**Mr Suheil Ahmed Chowdhury**, former Commerce Secretary, Government of Bangladesh, said that the current world is witnessing gradual weakening of the OIC and even WTO is not in a good position as the current US administration has changed its position on liberalism. In this context, he asked the chief guest of the seminar whether there will be any change in Bangladesh foreign policy and strategy in 2018.

**Dr Rashed Al Mahmud Titumir**, Professor, Department of Development Studies, University of Dhaka, pointed to some issues which have not been covered in the seminar. He commented that Bangladesh has been thinking about foreign policy as a political issue, but it is beyond the mere political sphere. He asked, how does Bangladesh ensure that there is a political consensus on a grand narrative. He also asked how it is possible to make Bangladesh strategically important in the changed global scenario. He advised on setting up a national security council to deal with Bangladesh’s immediate and long term security problems.

**Professor Gobinda Chakraborty**, Department of Political Science, University of Dhaka, agreed with the Honourable Foreign Minister regarding Bangladesh’s warm relation with India. However, in the backdrop of the recent Rohingya crisis, he wanted to know what is the
definite policy of Bangladesh regarding China and India - is it a simultaneous ‘bandwagoning’ with China and India? Or is it simultaneous appeasement with India and China?

In response to the comments and questions raised by the participants in the open discussion, Dr Ahsan Mansur informed that the Square Pharmaceutical is opening a factory in the export processing zone of Kenya. As Bangladesh’s capital account regime is very restrictive, Bangladeshi investors are trying to work with Bangladesh Bank and also telling the Ministry of Finance that this is the proper time for Bangladesh to open up capital account very selectively. Hence, without liberalisation of government policy farms cannot relocate and invest in these regions. In this regard, Dr Mansur suggested the government to liberalise its policy only for selective and reputed Bangladeshi investors in order to prevent flight of Bangladeshi capital. Regarding the reduction of tariff, Dr Mansur proposed reduction of tariff protection. He argued that Bangladesh cannot be an outlier; it cannot hold 26 per cent tariff while other have gone down to 5-6 per cent, which will not be compatible with the global tariff regime. Even in 1991, Bangladesh was much ahead of India in terms of tariff reform. But since then, after Manmohan Singh and his successors, India has opened up its economy and reaping the benefits as significant global FDI is coming to Indian market. According to Dr Mansur, the SAARC and BCIM have not moved as well as Bangladesh has hoped it will. He opined that Bangladesh should move forward with India in the issue of transshipment.

Professor Dr Imtiaz Ahmed mentioned in his response that there is a lack of research and knowledge in peace studies. He urged for emphasis on peace research so that peacekeeping can be accommodated within the foreign policy priority of Bangladesh. Professor Ahmed also said that Paul Kennedy in 1987 has successfully predicted the reemergence of China and relative decline of the US. He added that the US’s obsession with deficit budget and the relationship with the military industrial complex will continue under the Trump administration. Professor Ahmed also mentioned the SAARC’s leaders’ obsession with
theory of scarcity rather than theory of abundance. However, scarcity will not take SAARC too far; therefore, Bangladesh needs to move to the theory of abundance.

**Professor Dr Tasnim Siddiqui** responded that Bangladesh needs inter-ministerial coordination is imperative to prevent informal migration. Although there is an inter-ministerial body, but it has been largely dysfunctional. In order to deal with these problems, there has to be an integrated approach and all the ministries should have one unified policy towards migration. Dr Siddiqui also mentioned that visa trading is done by the Bangladeshi recruiting agencies. Visas are bought and sold in the countries of destination at least in five and six tiers. First tier will be the high up government functionaries who will sell five to ten hundreds visa work permits. Then these work permits will be sold in to the black market and some Bangladeshi, international and subregional recruiting agencies will buy these permits. By the time it reaches Bangladesh, the price of these permits will go up to US$15 to 20 hundred. Most of the labour-visas are coming to Bangladesh through individual contract, through friends and families. Thus, recruiting agencies are in the last tier of this informal circle.

**Mr Md Shahidul Haque**, Foreign Secretary, Government of People’s Republic of Bangladesh, summed up the seminar by saying that the discussion of the seminar was very rich, direct and open. He not only tried to inform what Bangladesh is doing but also tried to answer some of the questions raised in the open discussion. He mentioned about three types of realities within which foreign policy is adopted. These are reality, virtual reality and augmented reality. He commented that this plurality in reality creates problem for countries like Bangladesh than developed countries. Thus, Bangladesh has problems not only with the Rohingya issue but also with the changing scenarios of global politics. He remarked that the philosophy of foreign policy given by the Father of the Nation continued to remain a rallying point. He informed that Bangladesh’s foreign policy has four pillars: pragmatism, peace and stability, innovativeness, and humanitarianism. Finally, he remarked that so far Bangladesh had shied away in negotiating FTA
with other countries as it is the single country of the world which does not have single FTA with any country. For last two years Bangladesh is trying to activate the process. Some progress has been made as currently Bangladesh is negotiating with Sri Lanka and China which should have been started ten years back.

Mr Md Shahriar Alam, MP, Honourable State Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, in his address as the Chief Guest of the Working Session, agreed with the Foreign Minister who gave a clear outline of Bangladesh’s foreign policy and with the Foreign Secretary who highlighted the challenges ahead. He opined that what Bangladesh achieved during the past nine years, if these steps were taken twenty years ago then the present positive status of Bangladesh could have been achieved way before. He appreciated Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for her excellent and prudent leadership role in this regard. In conclusion, he expressed his willingness to work in such an open consultative way in the coming days as well. He hoped that everyone will work together to achieve the goal of Bangladesh becoming a developed nation by 2041.

In light of the above discussion, the seminar made the following suggestions:

- As the power started to shift from the US, multiple centres of power are emerging in the global political landscape; Bangladesh’s foreign policy needs to be readjusted with the changing global dynamics.

- In terms of dealing with Rohingya crisis, Bangladesh needs to emphasise on multilateralism over bilateralism.

- Bangladesh’s stake in the changing global dynamics is not only very high, but also its stakes are growing, especially in the areas of climate change and human development. For these two important aspects, Bangladesh needs to develop its bargaining capacity and resources to be able to bring the most out of its regional and global negotiations and engagements.
• Regarding economic development, Bangladesh needs to secure the opportunities of the globalisation while mitigating its threat.

• To keep the momentum of development, Bangladesh needs to attract the FDI, secure a DFQF market access, boost export of goods and services, export the manpower, and explore new markets. Therefore, the focus needs to be given on an export led economy with increasing economic growth pattern by gradually opening up towards the market economy in the form of reducing the tariff and the non-tariff barriers, joining in the regional connectivity programmes and engaging in the region specific preferential trading arrangements.

• Bangladesh needs to develop stronger partnerships to push for enforceable actions and gain access to resources and technology to develop the capacity to effectively address the climate vulnerabilities.
Glossary

**ADB.** The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is an international development finance institution which is dedicated to reducing poverty in Asia and the Pacific through loans, grants, research and technical assistance to its member countries, as well as investments in private companies.

**Alibaba Group.** This Chinese company has grown into a global leader in online and mobile commerce since its establishment in 1999. It promotes a shared belief that internet would level the playing field by enabling small enterprises to leverage innovation and technology to grow and compete more effectively in the domestic and global economies.

**Amazon.** It is an American electronic commerce and cloud computing company which is the largest internet retailer in the world as measured by revenue and market capitalisation. It is also the world's largest provider of cloud infrastructure services.

**Annexation.** Action of annexing something, especially territory.

**Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army.** A Rohingya insurgent group, formerly known as Harakah al-Yaqin, active in Rakhine State of Myanmar since 2013.

**Archetypes.** An original model after which other similar things are patterned. In psychology, as Caarl Juang describes, it refers to the images, patterns and symbols that rise out of the collective unconscious and appear in dreams, mythology and fairy tales.

**Arthashastra.** An ancient Indian handbook, written in Sanskrit, on statecraft, military strategy and economic policy. Kautilya, also known as Chanakya, is credited as the author of the text.
ASEAN. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is a regional intergovernmental organisation comprising ten Southeast Asian countries. It was established on 08 August 1967 in Bangkok, Thailand, with the signing of the ASEAN Declaration by Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. Later, Brunei Darussalam, Vietnam, Laos, Myanmar and Cambodia joined.

Asian Highways. It is a cooperative project among countries in Asia and Europe and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, to improve the highway systems in Asia.

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). It is a multilateral development bank with a mission to improve social and economic outcomes in Asia and beyond. Its headquarter is in Beijing and has 86 approved members from around the world starting from January 2016.

Asian Tigers. The Four Asian Tigers or Asian Dragons are the highly developed economies of Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan. These regions were the first newly industrialised countries.

Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement. Previously known as the Bankok Agreement, it is the oldest preferential trade agreement between countries in the Asia-Pacific region, which was signed in 1975.

Average Tariff Rate. The average tariff rate is a simple mean of applied tariff. It is the unweighted average of effectively applied rates for all products subject to tariffs calculated for all traded goods.

Balance of Power. An equilibrium of power to prevent one state or nation to impose its interests or will upon the rest and interfere with another’s interests.

Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal (BBIN). This initiative is a subregional architecture of four South Asian countries. It meets through official representation of member states to formulate, implement and review quadrilateral agreements across areas such as water resources management, connectivity of power, transport, and infrastructure. It was first formalised as South Asia Growth Triangle in 1996. However, it received much emphasis after the signing of BBIN Motor Vehicle Agreement (MVA) in 2015.

Bangladesh, China, India, and Myanmar Economic Cooperation (BCIM-EC). It is a subregional grouping that seeks to deepen friendly cooperation among the four member states, and to link South Asia with
Southeast and East Asia by building multi-modal connectivity, harnessing economic complementaries and enhancing people-to-people ties. Previously known as Kunming Initiative, it was first launched in 1999 in Kunming, Yunnan Province of China. Now it is considered as one of the key components of China’s Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

**Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC).** It is a regional organisation founded in 1997 of seven nations of South Asia and Southeast Asia which are dependent on the Bay of Bengal, including Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bhutan and Nepal. It came into being 1997 through Bangkok Declaration.

**Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).** It is a development strategy proposed by the Chinese government that focuses on connectivity and cooperation between Eurasian countries, primarily the People’s Republic of China (PRC) and the countries that fall in the land-based Silk Road Economic Belt (SREB) and the ocean-going Maritime Silk Road (MSR).

**Bilateralism.** Conducting political, economic, or cultural relations between two sovereign states.

**Bretton Woods Institutions.** The Bretton Woods Institutions are the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). They were set up in 1944 to help rebuild the shattered post-war economy and promote international economic cooperation.

**Brexit.** Withdrawal of Britain from the European Union.

**Centrist.** Moderate political views or policies supporting the balance of a degree of social equality and a degree of social hierarchy while opposing political changes.

**Char.** It is a tract of land surrounded by the waters of an ocean, sea, lake, or stream; it usually means, any accretion in a river course or estuary. Chars in Bangladesh can be considered a ‘by-product’ of the hydro-morphological dynamics of its rivers.

**Closed Economy.** This economy has no trade activity with outside economies. It is self-sufficient, which means no imports come into the country and no exports leave the country. Its intent is to provide domestic consumers with everything they need from within the country’s borders.

**Collective Unconscious.** Structures of unconscious mind shared among the being of same kind or species. The term was coined by Carl Jung.
Colombo Process. A Regional Consultative Process on the management of overseas employment and contractual labour for countries of origins in Asia. It was established in 2003, comprising 12 member states.

Compact. A pact or treaty, more specifically the agreement between the government and the voluntary and community sector.

Concomitant. A phenomenon that naturally accompanies or follows something.

Conference of the Parties (CoP). The Conference of the Parties is the governing body of an international convention (i.e. the Convention on Biological Diversity). It advances implementation of the convention through the decisions it takes at its periodic meetings.

Conspiracy Theory. A theory explains an incident or set of circumstances as the result of a secret plot by covert or influential actors.

Copenhagen Accord. The accord was adopted at the 15th session of the Conference of Parties (COP 15) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on 18 December 2009. It provided for explicit emission pledges by all major economies, but did not show any clear path towards a binding treaty.

D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation. It is an organisation for development cooperation among Bangladesh, Egypt, Nigeria, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Pakistan and Turkey. It was established in 1996 to improve the member states’ position in the global economy.

Dalal. Dalal or Middleman is an intermediary in a transaction or process chain who facilitates interaction between parties, typically for a commission or fee.

Demilitarised Zone. An area in which agreement prohibits military installations, activities or personnel.

Demographic Dividend. Growth of economy due to the change of population’s age structure mainly when the share of working age population is higher than that of non-working age population.

Demography. Statistical study of populations especially human beings i.e. income, deaths, births, incidence of disease etc., which illustrates the changing structure of human population.

Demystify. Making clearer and easier to understand a difficult subject.

Denuclearisation. Prohibiting the use of nuclear arms and eliminating the store of nuclear weapons.
Deportation. The expulsion of a person or group of people from a place or country. It is mostly used in the context of national or domestic law.

Determinism. Philosophical theory or doctrine that all events, including human actions and moral choices, are totally determined by previously existing causes.

Developed Country Status. Countries with high gross domestic product (GDP) per capita in terms of income per capita. For example, IMF identifies 39 advanced economies and World Bank identifies 78 “high-income economies”.

Dialectics. A discourse between two or more persons having different opinions about a subject but willing to establish the truth through logic and arguments.

Diaspora. Dispersions or spread of any population from their original homeland.

Dilatory Tactics. Methods through which the rules of procedure are used by a party to a lawsuit in an abusive manner to delay the progress of the proceedings.

Duty Free Quota Free (DFQF). It refers to market access without any tariffs or limit on the amount of goods that can imported and exported. It is the provision of WTO that all developed countries will provide DFQF market access to LDCs for at least 97 per cent tariff lines.

Dystopia. An imagined dehumanised society or state, typically totalitarian, having injustices and sufferings.

Ecological Sustainability. Maintenance of the biodiversity or capacity of the biosphere to serve the present needs without endangering the future generations from being able to meet their own needs.

Economic Diplomacy. A form of diplomacy which is used by a state as a tool to achieve its national interests. It usually involves a state’s international economic activities, including policy decisions designed to influence exports, imports, investments, lending, aid, free trade agreements, etc.

Economic Globalisation. Free movement of goods, capital, services, technology and information.

Epistemology. A branch of philosophy that deals with the theory of knowledge, particularly its methods, validity and scopes and the justification and rationality of beliefs.
Ethnic Cleansing. Killing or expulsion of one ethnic or religious group by
another. It is a systematic forced removal of ethnic or racial groups from
a given territory by a more powerful ethnic group, often with the intention
of making it ethnically homogeneous.

European Union. It is a political and economic union of 28 member states
that are located primarily in Europe, which since its establishment in 1951
has developed an internal single market through a standardised system
of laws and regulations that apply in all member states.

Euroscepticism. It means criticism of the European Union (EU) and
European integration.

Extremism. Extreme fanatic belief or advocacy of extreme political or
religious views.

Fascism. It is a form of radical authoritarian nationalism, prominent in the
early-20th century, which tends to exercise dictatorial control, suppression
of opposition and control over the trade and industry.

Forced Displacement. It refers to situations of persons who leave or flee their
homes due to conflict, violence, persecution and human rights violations.

Forced Migration. It is a migratory movement in which an element of
coercion exists, including threats to life and livelihood. It may arise from
natural or man-made causes i.e. movements of refugees and internally
displaced persons, displaced by natural or environmental disasters,
chemical or nuclear disasters, famine or development projects.

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). It is an investment made by a firm or
individual in one country into business interests located in another
country. It takes place when an investor establishes foreign business
operations or acquires foreign business assets.

Free World. A political propaganda used during the Cold War to refer the
non-communist Western Bloc as opposed to the Soviet Bloc.

G-77. The Group of 77 (G-77) at the United Nations is a coalition of
developing nations, designed to promote its members’ collective
economic interests and create an enhanced joint negotiating capacity in
the United Nations

GDP. It is the monetary value of all the finished goods and services produced
within a country’s borders in a specific time period. Though GDP is
usually calculated on an annual basis, it can be calculated on a quarterly
basis as well.
**Genocide.** Killing of a large group or a part of population that belong to a particular nation or ethnic group.

**Globalisation.** An integration process among the people and governments driven by international trade and investment and assisted by the worldwide spread of information technology.

**Green Climate Fund (GCF).** The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is established in 2010 to assist developing countries in their adaptation and mitigation practices to counter climate change. It was set up by the 194 countries who are parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), as part of the Convention’s financial mechanism.

**Greenhouse Gases (GHGs).** These are gases in an atmosphere that absorb and emit radiant energy within the thermal infrared range. This process is the fundamental cause of the greenhouse effect. The primary greenhouse gases in earth’s atmosphere are water vapor, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and ozone.

**Haor.** It is a bowl-shaped large tectonic depression, which receives surface runoff water by rivers and *khals*, and consequently becomes very extensive water body in the monsoon and dries up mostly in the post-monsoon period.

**Hegemony.** Political, economic or military predominance or control of one state over others.

**Human Security.** Human security is a paradigm that put primacy to human beings and their complex social and economic interactions. It challenges the traditional concept of national security by arguing that the proper referent for security should be the individual rather than the state.

**Humanitarian Diplomacy.** Persuading decision makers and opinion leaders to act to uphold fundamental humanitarian principles and protect the interest of the vulnerable people.

**Humanitarian Problem.** An occurrence or series of occurrences that threaten a community or a large group of people in terms of security and well-being.

**Industrial Revolution.** It was the period of transition to new manufacturing processes in the 18th century, which included going from hand production methods to machines, new chemical manufacturing and iron production processes, the increasing use of steam power, the development of machine tools and the rise of the factory system.
**Insurgency.** It is a rebellion against authority (i.e. state) when those taking part in the rebellion are not recognised as lawful combatants (belligerents).

**Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).** It is the international body for assessing the science related to climate change. IPCC assessments provide a scientific basis for governments at all levels to develop climate-related policies.

**Intermediary.** A mediator who acts as a link between people to try and bring about an agreement.

**Intermediate Products.** Intermediate products are goods and services consumed as inputs by a process of production, excluding fixed assets. It might require further processing before it is saleable to the ultimate consumer. Thus, an intermediate product might be a final product for one company and an input for another company that will process it further.

**Internal Migration.** Migration within one geopolitical entity, usually a nation-state for the purpose of education or economic improvement or because of a natural disaster or civil disturbance.

**International Community.** The phrase ‘international community’ is used in geopolitics and international relations to denote a wide group of people and governments of the world. The term is typically used to imply the existence of a common point of view towards matters of international significance.

**International Migration.** Movement of people across a national border and stay in the host country for some period of time.

**Internationalisation of Production.** Process of creating production relations between the enterprises of various countries where a single country production becomes a part of the global production process.

**Iran Nuclear Deal.** It was a preliminary framework agreement reached in 2015 between the Islamic Republic of Iran and a group of world powers: the P5+1 (the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council—the United States, the United Kingdom, Russia, France, and China—plus Germany) and the European Union.

**Irregular Migrants.** Movements that take place outside the regulatory norms of the sending, transit and receiving countries.

**Isolationist.** An individual’s or state’s policy of remaining apart from the affairs of other states or nations, especially from the political affairs.

**Kafala System (Sponsor System).** The kafala is an Arabic word which refers
Glossary

to a system used to monitor migrant labourers, working primarily in the construction and domestic sectors in the Middle East. It requires all unskilled labourers to have an in-country sponsor responsible for their visa and legal status.

**Kautilya.** Also known as Chanakya, he was an Indian Philosopher and royal adviser of emperor Chandragupta Maurya. He is the pioneer of politics and economics in India. He is credited as the author of Arthashastra.

**Kyoto Protocol.** It is an international agreement which extends the 1992 UNFCCC, requiring its Parties to follow internationally binding emission reduction targets. It was adopted in 1997 entered into force in 2005.

**Labour Intensive.** A form of work that requires a large number of workforce in relation to output.

**Labour Migration.** Movement of persons from one state to another, or within their own country of residence, for the purpose of employment.

**LDC Status.** The Least Developed Countries (LDCs) are a group of countries that have been classified by the UN as “least developed” in terms of their low Gross National Income (GNI), their weak human assets and their high degree of economic vulnerability. The criteria to identify them is termed as LDC status.

**Li & Fung’s list.** Li & Fung Limited is a global supply chain manager primarily for US and EU brands, department stores, hypermarkets, specialty stores, catalogue-led companies, and e-commerce sites. It was founded in 1906 in Canton and is headquartered in Hong Kong.

**Liberal Democracy.** A form of government in which representative democracy operates under the principles of liberalism i.e. rule of law, protection of individual rights, etc.

**Liberal Interventionism.** A foreign policy doctrine that argues that liberal states should intervene (both humanitarian aid and military invasion) in other sovereign states to pursue liberal values.

**Mahabharata.** A Sanskrit epic poem of ancient India.

**Maoism.** Political theory developed from the thoughts of Mao Zedong centering the idea of permanent revolution, importance of peasantry, small-scale industry and collectivisation of agriculture.

**Marshall Plan.** An American aid programme to Western Europe for their economic recovery after the end of Second World War.
Masterpiece. A work completed with extraordinary skill, especially a supreme intellectual or artistic achievement.

Mazhab. A school of thought within Islamic jurisprudence (Fiqh)

Memorandum of Understanding. An agreement between two or more parties indicating an intended common line of action. It lacks legal commitment.

Middle Income Status. As of July 2017, Middle-Income Countries (MICs) are nations with a per capita Gross National Income (GNI) between US$1,005 and US$12,235. This criteria to identify them is termed as middle income status.

Migrants. A person who moves from one place to another in order to find work or better living conditions.

Migration Governance. A consolidated, coherent and comprehensive framework to ensure that migration is humane, orderly and benefits both migrants and society.

Multi-disciplinary. A study with the combination of two or more academic disciplines in an approach to a problem.

Multilateralism. An alliance of multiple countries pursuing a common goal. It is a process of organising relations between groups of three or more states.

Multi-polar World. An international system in which power is distributed more than two nation states having nearly equal military, economic and cultural influence.

NAFTA. The North American Free Trade Agreement is signed by Canada, Mexico, and the United States creating a trilateral trade bloc, which came into force in 1994.

Narco-terrorism. Terrorism affiliated with the illegal drug trade or financed by profit from illegal drug trafficking.

NDC. Countries’ Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) are central to the Paris Agreement that was reached in December 2015. Bangladesh’s NDC describes its plans for tackling greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and adapting to unavoidable climate change.

Non Siquitur. In Latin, non sequitur means “it does not follow.”

Non-state Actors. Individuals or organisations having social, political and economic power to influence domestic or international policies without
being affiliated with a particular country (*i.e.* terrorist outfits, NGOs, intergovernmental organisations).

**Non-tariff Barriers.** It is a way to restrict trade using trade barriers in a form other than a tariff, including quotas, embargoes, sanctions, levies and other restrictions.

**Non-traditional Security.** A human centric approach of security in which concern shifts from state to individual and recognises other threats *i.e.* poverty, climate change, etc.

**Non-violence.** No use of force or violence but peaceful means to bring about social and political change.

**North Atlantic Treaty Organization.** An intergovernmental military alliance between 29 North American and European countries on North Atlantic Treaty signed on 04 April 1949 to guarantee the freedom and security of its members through political and military means.

**Nuclear Non-proliferation.** It is an international treaty whose objective is to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and weapons technology.

**Occupational Mobility.** Easing the movement of resources between jobs *i.e.* a worker leaves a job as an accountant to takes a job as a computer programmer.

**Official Development Assistance (ODA).** It is a term coined by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to measure aid. It is widely used as an indicator of international aid flow.

**OIC Countries.** The Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) is an international organisation that works to safeguard and protect the interests of the Muslim world.

**Operation Nagamin.** A military operation carried out by the Tatmadaw and immigration officials in northern Arakan, Burma (Rakhine State, Myanmar), during the socialist rule of General Ne Win.

**Orderly Migration.** The movement of a person from his or her usual place of residence to a new place of residence, in keeping with the laws and regulations governing exit of the country of origin and travel, transit and entry into the destination or host country.

**Paradigm Shift.** It means a fundamental change in approach or underlying assumptions.
Paris Climate Change Accord. It was adopted in 12 December 2015, with a central aim to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change. It pledges to keep the global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

Peacekeeping. A role held by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the UN to assist the countries beset with conflicts to make necessary conditions for lasting peace.

Persecution. Suppression, hostility and ill-treatment because of race or religious beliefs or political views.

Political Destabilisation. It means the attempts to undermine political, military or economic power.

Political Economy. Political Economy is the study of relationship between state and market, society and individuals and their relations with the law and custom as well as with the allocation of national wealth and income.

Populist. A member of political group who seeks to represent the interests of the general people.

Positivism. A philosophical ideology and movement, excluding metaphysics and theism, which can be scientifically verified or mathematically proved.

Preferential Trade Agreement. It is a trading bloc that gives preferential access to certain products from the participating countries.

Prerogative. Exclusive privilege or right to a particular class or individual.

Proactive Role. Proactive role means acting in advance of a situation that would appear in future. It is related to taking control and making things happen rather than adjusting to a situation or waiting to see what happens.

Protectionism. It is the theory or practice of shielding a country’s domestic industries from foreign competition by taxing imports through imposing tariffs or different forms of non-tariff barriers (NTBs).

Radicalisation. The action or process of causing someone to adopt radical positions on political or social issues.

RCEP. Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) is a proposed Free Trade agreement (FTA) between the ten member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the six states with which ASEAN has existing free trade agreements.
Referendum. A voting system in which people are asked to give their opinion to make decision over a particular proposal or crucial political or social issues.

Refugee. A person who has been forced to cross national boundaries to escape persecution, war or disasters and cannot return home safely.

Religious Radicalisation. A process by which an individual or group adopt extreme religious ideas and aspirations rejecting contemporary opinions.

Remittances. Monies earned or acquired by non-nationals that are transferred back to their country of origin.

Renaissances. A period of European history between 14th and 17th centuries bridged by the Age of Enlightenment to modern history.

Repatriation. The return of someone to his/her own country or place of origin or citizenship.

Rhetoric. Art of discourse wherein effective speaking or writing techniques are used by speaker or writer to inform and persuade particular audiences in specific situations.

Right-wing Populism. A political ideology, a combination of right-wing politics and populist rhetoric, featuring anti-elitist sentiments, opposition to the system and so on.

Rio+20 Conference. The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development or Rio+20 took place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on 20-22 June 2012. It resulted in a focused political outcome document which contains clear and practical measures for implementing sustainable development.

Rohingya. A group of ethnic minority and forcibly displaced Myanmar nationals residing in Rakhine State of Myanmar.

Rohingya Refugee Crisis. It is a humanitarian crisis caused by escalating violence in Myanmar’s Rakhine State from 25th August 2017. Not only has the pace of arrivals made this the fastest growing refugee crisis in the world, the concentration of refugees in Cox’s Bazar is now amongst the densest in the world.

SDGs. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a collection of 17 global goals set by the United Nations adopted in 2015.

Seasonal Migrants. Migration that is not intended to be permanent rather for a specified and limited period of time undertaken for a specific purpose.
Securitisation. A process of transforming a subject or issue into matter of security. It is an extreme version of politicisation of issue.

Shanghai Cooperation Organisation. Established in 2001, it is a Eurasian political, economic, and security organisation, currently having eight member states.

Small Island Developing States (SIDS). It is a group of small island countries that tend to share similar sustainable development challenges. The SIDS was first recognised as a distinct group of developing countries at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in June 1992.

Soft Power. An approach involving the persuasive use of economic or cultural influence in international relations.

Specialised Economic Zones (SEZs). It is an area in which business and trade laws are different from the rest of the country. SEZs are located within a country's national borders, and their aims include increased trade, increased investment, job creation and effective administration.

Stalemate. A situation in which neither group involved in an argument or conflict can win or get an advantage, resulting in no action.

Stalinism. Ideology adopted by Joseph Stalin which is based on totalitarianism, centralisation and the pursuit of communism.

Subaltern. Population who, in postcolonialism, are geographically, socially and politically outside of the power structure of the colony and their colonial homeland

Superpower. It means a very powerful and influential nation with an exceptional or extraordinary ability (especially used in reference to the USA and former Soviet Union in the Cold War period).

Sustainable Development. Sustainable development is the organising principle for human development goals while at the same time sustaining the ability of the natural resources and ecosystem services upon which the economy and society depend.

Tariff Barriers. A barrier to trade between certain countries for the purposes of protection, support of the balance of payments or the raising of revenue.

Terrorism. Indiscriminate use of violence to create fear to attain political, economic, religious or ideological goals.

Theory of Abundance. A mindset that sees the world as a benign universe with endless opportunity.

Trade Protectionism. It is the economic policy of restricting imports from other countries by tariffs on imported goods, import quotas and variety of other government regulations.

Trans-Pacific Partnership. A Free Trade Agreement between eleven Pacific-rim economies, signed on 04 February 2016, designed to liberalise trade and investments. Due to US withdrawal, the agreement could not come into force.

Ultra-nationalism. Extreme nationalism or advocacy of the interests of a nation without considering the effect on other nations.

UN Peacekeeping. It helps countries navigate the difficult path from conflict to peace, with unique strengths, including legitimacy, burden sharing, etc. UN peacekeepers monitor and observe peace processes in post-conflict areas and assist in implementing peace agreements.

UN World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED). The United Nations General Assembly in 1983 formed a special commission that should make available a report on environment and other global problems. Currently known as Brundtland Commission, its mission is to unite nations to pursue sustainable development together.

Undocumented Workers. Workers who lack the legal documentation required to work in the country in which they live.

Unipolar World. It is a distribution of power in which one state exercises most of the cultural, economic, and military influence in global politics.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). It is a United Nations agency which coordinates its environmental activities, primarily assisting developing countries in implementing environmentally sound policies and practices. Its activities cover a wide range of issues regarding the atmosphere, marine and terrestrial ecosystems, environmental governance and green economy.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). It is an international environmental treaty adopted on 09 May 1992 and opened for signature at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro from 03 to 14
June 1992. Its aim is to stabilise greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a moderate level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climatic system.

**Upper Middle-income Country.** Upper middle-income economies are those with a GNI (Gross National Income) per capita between US$3,956 and US$12,235.

**Voluntary Migration.** Voluntary migration is where the migrant has a choice to migrate or not.

**World Meteorological Organization (WMO).** It is an intergovernmental organisation with a membership of 191 member states, which became the specialised agency of the United Nations in 1951 for meteorology (weather and climate), operational hydrology and related geophysical sciences.

**WTO.** The World Trade Organization is the international organisation that oversees the global trade rules between nations. It officially commenced in 1995, replacing the General Agreement on Trade and Tariff (GATT) which commenced in 1948. The goal is to ensure that trade flows as smoothly, predictably and freely as possible. It acts as a forum for negotiating trade agreements and settle disputes among its members.

**Xenophobic Sentiments.** A sentiment derived from hatred or fear of strangers or foreigners or of their culture or politics.

**Yaba.** Tablets containing a mixture of methamphetamine and caffeine.

**Zakat.** A religious obligation for the Muslims to pay a part of their wealth by following certain criteria.

**Zero-sum Approach.** It is a mathematical representation of a situation in which each participant’s gain or loss of utility is exactly balanced by the losses or gains of the utility of the other participants.
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