



Welcome Address

Inspector General of Police, Upendra Kant Aryal
Chief of Nepal Police and Head of NCB Kathmandu

On the Opening Session of 23rd Asian Regional Conference of INTERPOL

18 January 2017, Kathmandu, Nepal

Chief Guest of the Opening Ceremony, Right Honourable Prime Minister,

Honourable Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Home Affairs,

President of INTERPOL Mr MENG Hongwei,

Secretary General Mr Jürgen Stock ,

Distinguished Guests and Delegates,

Dear friends from the press and media,

All my dedicated staff of the Nepal Police,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Jaya Nepal, Namaste and Good Morning,

It gives me a great pleasure to offer a warm welcome to all the delegates and dignified invitees of the 23rd Asian Regional Conference of INTERPOL here in the lap of the Himalayas.

I also extend warm welcome to our observer countries who are joining us from other parts of the world, as well as to the international organizations and other observers present.

This is the second time Nepal is organizing the Asian Regional Conference of INTERPOL. In 1989, Nepal hosted the 10th Asian Regional Conference and today, after 27 years, Nepal is proud to be hosting the INTERPOL conference again.

I am delighted to see such a wonderful gathering and I am encouraged by the presence of delegates from the police fraternity keen to share their vast knowledge, ideas and experiences for a safer and better world. Your presence signifies the importance of the Asia-Pacific region in global security.

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As I witness this gathering, I perceive it not simply as a presence of law enforcement officials, but a resounding reflection and symbol of our consolidated effort in police cooperation to fight against the menace of terrorism and other transnational organized crimes.

Honorable Chief Guest, Right Honorable Prime Minister of Nepal,

I, on behalf of the Nepal Police organization and INTERPOL, would like to express my gratitude for accepting our invitation and gracing the ceremony with your distinguished presence.

I am also excited to see dignitaries representing various ministries and organizations, your excellences and retired Chiefs of my organization amid this gathering. Thank you all for your inspiring company.

Distinguished guests and delegates,

There is an old saying in policing: “If only we KNEW, what we KNOW”. The biggest challenge law enforcement agencies face today is to act with predictability in the age of uncertainty. Our strengths and limitations both are challenged by criminals.

Today, technology has challenged the meaning of tradition. Traditional crimes are facilitated and amplified by the Internet. Terrorism, extremism, both cybercrime and cyber-enabled crimes, money laundering, human trafficking and smuggling, online child exploitation, wildlife crimes, trafficking of illegal narcotics, match fixing and the list of various new dimensions of transnational crimes may be never-ending.

Crime rates and modalities are reaching new heights at a breathtaking speed, and with the advent of Internet and greater technological access this situation doesn't seem to go away but grow each moment.

Today, we all accept the fact that world is shrinking and increasingly becoming borderless. The traditional notion of borders and limitations need rethinking because the criminals are exploiting fast-changing technological advancements in comparison to the accessibility and adaptability of law enforcement members. Even today, as the members of law enforcement agencies, we have to face more formalities and barriers whether it is in movement or in sharing of intelligence.

Global events have local impacts, and our destinies are inseparably intertwined. We, however, need to acknowledge that police priorities are now extended beyond geo-political barriers and our national self interests. We must open our doors and hearts for more bilateral and multilateral police cooperation.

The time demands more collaboration between police agencies and various stakeholders. To fight organized crime syndicates there is no alternative to a compelling police network, and INTERPOL has proved its worthiness in this regard.

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The member countries of INTERPOL are always indebted to the Organization because through its tools and services, INTERPOL has been a highly effective platform in facilitating police agencies to prevent and fight crimes through enhanced cooperation and innovation on police and security fronts.

INTERPOL's active role in supporting its member countries with technical as well as international communication and cooperation has also helped the Nepal Police locate, identify and arrest criminals and fugitives involved in serious crimes, including homicide, kidnapping and crimes related to drugs and the illegal wildlife trade. For this, we would like thank the INTERPOL and all its member countries.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Talking about Nepal, the situation and the problems we are facing is not so distinct from rest of the member countries.

Illicit trafficking of narcotics, human trafficking, financial crimes, wildlife crimes and traditional crimes that are intensified by the use of technology are escalating in Nepal. The only way to win against the criminals is solidarity between law enforcement agencies by the sharing of information and the sharing of technology.

Apart from that, you all must be aware of the earthquake that hit the country with devastating effects on 25 April 2015. We were overwhelmed by the support and best wishes we received from INTERPOL and the wider international community. But, as the mythical phoenix, we are determined to rise from the ashes.

Honorable Chief Guest, distinguished guests and delegates,

Before, I conclude, once again I would like to extend a warm welcome to Right Honorable Prime Minister, Honorable Home Minister and the President of INTERPOL, who managed their time to be with us here today, and also to the hundreds of delegates who travelled Kathmandu to attend this important biannual regional police meeting.

I am hopeful that the 23rd Asian Regional Conference will set a landmark in recognizing the new realm of challenges and opportunities of policing, and forging new partnership in fighting global crime.

I would also like to express my deep appreciation to our supporting partners. Thank you so much for your support and contribution.

To all the distinguished delegates, I wish you a warm, pleasant and fruitful stay in Nepal.

Thank you, Jaya Nepal