



Inaugural Remarks by
Honourable Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister Bimalendra Nidhi
On the opening ceremony of the 23rd Asian Regional Conference of INTERPOL

Date: 18 January 2017
Venue: Hyatt Regency, Boudha, Kathmandu

Chief Guest of the Opening Ceremony Right Honorable Prime Minister,
President of INTERPOL, Mr MENG Hongwei,
Secretary General of INTERPOL, Mr. Jürgen Stock,
Chief of the Nepal Police and its entire fraternity who have worked diligently for the conference,
Delegates from the Asia-Pacific region and participating observers,
Distinguished guests, media personnel, Ladies and Gentlemen,

A warm good morning to you all.

I am privileged to be here at the inaugural function of the 23rd Asian Regional Conference of INTERPOL.

I am grateful towards the organizing committee for inviting and letting me express few words.

The delegates have travelled a long way from home. In spite of tiredness your participation is praiseworthy. I hope you will have active and fruitful discussions and a pleasant stay here in Nepal.

It is my honour to stand here and deliver my perspective on this year's Asian Regional Conference of INTERPOL that is being organized with the theme of "Law Enforcement in Asia, Current and Future Challenges".

It has become a sort of cliché to repeat time and again that crime has become a transnational and global phenomena, and thus law enforcement agencies must unite together to fight it. I have read and listened this statement numerous time and in various occasions, but the question arises: shall we keep on repeating it or act immediately to address it?

I personally believe and hold the view that more commitment and harmonious action is needed between various countries, both in the governmental and non-governmental sectors, if we are determined to leave a safe place for our future generations.

The solidarity between law enforcement agencies and various other governmental and non-governmental stakeholders who have supporting roles in security arrangement must be redefined and strengthened, because the deep impact of crime and terrorism is beyond our imagination.

Criminal gangs and terrorist syndicates are united, organized and have a very good rapport among them. So to curb them, such conferences will help to develop better cooperation and understanding among law enforcement agencies.

If we talk about law and order, it is not something that can be seen: rather, it is the feeling of a citizen. Therefore, the activity of police agencies should be able to give assurance to the general public. As the Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister of the country I have made many efforts to provide security to our citizens.

And, I am more than glad to see the Nepal Police and dedicated team under the leadership of Inspector General of Police Upendra Kant Aryal who have worked for months to make this day possible. I have realized that members of the Nepal Police need more international exposure, because without international cooperation and mutual assistance the challenges that are mounting cannot be tackled easily.

Law enforcement agencies are frequently blamed for human rights violations so you all should keep this in your top of the mind. If human rights are not respected, protected and preserved, I think our civilization will not move in a positive direction.

Law enforcement agencies in the country like ours face many problems. Despite these problems, people have expectations and we have to fulfill them. If peoples' expectations are not fulfilled our identity will be questioned. The Ministry of Home Affairs is always committed to provide support for and facilitate the Nepal Police.

Once again, my thanks to the Nepal Police and INTERPOL for the invitation. My warmest welcome to all the delegates and observers.

I am hopeful that you will have the opportunity to learn more and share your experiences, values and cultures. Lastly, I wish you a fruitful and pleasant stay.

Thank you and Namaste.