

PRESS RELEASE

Bangladesh now world's top peace-keeper

New York, 10 November 2005:

Dr. Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations stated on Thursday that as of 31 October Bangladesh has earned the distinction of being the top troop-contributor in UN peace-keeping operations, with 9457 personnel currently deployed in various missions.

Pakistan is ranked second with 9068 personnel, and India, third, with 6878.

"This is indeed a matter of great pride and satisfaction for my country", Ambassador Chowdhury remarked to the media after the UN had made the announcement. "It reflects Bangladesh's deep and abiding commitment to global stability and our interest in actively associating ourselves with the goals and purposes of the United Nations, and of the international community", he added.

There are currently 107 countries participating in UN peace-keeping. The number of Bangladeshis will further increase with the completion of deployments in the Congo and Sudan in the near future, the Ambassador further informed the media.

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