Bangladesh High Commission <u>Canberra</u>

Press Release

(25 September 2009)

In July 2008, the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, invited applications from Non-Resident Bangladeshis (NRBs) for selecting beneficiaries for offering special benefits for 2009.

The NRBs, who have sent remittance amounting to at least US\$ 5,000.00 (United States Dollar Five Thousand) only or equivalent foreign currency to Bangladesh in the fiscal year 2007-2008 through legitimate banking channel were eligible to apply. There were two categories of special benefits to be given: i. category A who remitted more than US\$ 1,00,000.00 (one hundred thousand US\$) and category B who remitted more than US\$ 5,000.00 but below US\$ 1,00,000.00. Total 70 NRBs living in Australia applied for those benefits through Bangladesh High Commission in Canberra in July 2008.

The Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment has recently provided the special privileges cards to two NRBs living in Australia who remitted more than 1,00,000.00 in the FY 2007-2008 (under category A). The special privileges cards have been issued for one year from 01 July 2009 to 30 June 2010. The benefits given under category A are as under:

- i. Use of special baggage counter, immigration counter and CIP lounge in addition to fast customs clearance and special handling in any airport in Bangladesh
- ii. Priority admission of children in government schools and colleges and security of family members and protection of property in Bangladesh by the Police
- iii. Priority in land/flat registration and mutation and allotment of plot from RAJUK or other government organisations subject to respective quota
- iv. Priority in renewal of passports in case of re-migration for overseas jobs
- v. Priority in cabin booking along with other admissible facilities in government hospitals
- vi. Invitation to all functions on National Days organised by concerned Bangladesh Mission
- vii. Priority in seat booking for travel by road/railway/water transport within Bangladesh

All NRBs wo are interested to apply for this benefits in future are requested to keep an eye on the website of the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment (http://probashi.gov.bd) as well as the website of this Mission at www.bangladoot-canberra.org.
