

Biden has intention to build good relations with Bangladesh: Momen

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Online Desk: Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen has said US President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina held talks in a very cordial and warm atmosphere, reflecting the bilateral relations between the two countries are deep-rooted.

“He (Biden) has all the intention to build a good relationship with Bangladesh,” the FM said on Saturday while briefing reporters in New Delhi over the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina’s engagements in New Delhi.

The Bangladesh premier arrived in New Delhi on Friday to attend the G-20 Leaders’ Summit at the invitation of her Indian counterpart Narendra Modi. She addressed two sessions of the summit, had talks with US President Joe Biden and had meetings with several leaders on the sidelines of the summit.

Hasina, who returned home on Sunday, had bilateral meetings with Indian PM Narendra Modi, Saudi Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohammed Bin Salman Bin Abdulaziz, Argentine President Alberto Angel Fernandez, South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol and United Arab Emirates (UAE) President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

Replying to a question, Momen said, “It (talks among Biden, Sheikh Hasina, Sheikh Rehana and Saima Wazed in two separate occasions including in dinner in a very cordial environment) is the evident that we have a deep and solid relations with Washington and we will make it stronger in future.”

He said the USA is very keen to further consolidate the relationship with Bangladesh and for which they are sending their people and holding talks for it. “They (the American government) are not exerting any pressure on us rather the media do so,” he said.

The foreign minister said Joe Biden, Sheikh Hasina, her daughter Saima Wazed had a 15-minute talk at Bharat Mandapam International Exhibition Centre in Pragati Maidan in the Indian capital on the sidelines of the G-20 Summit.

“When our Prime Minister was talking to President Biden, he was seen very happy and fully enthusiastic and discussion happened in a very cordial and warm atmosphere. It (the discussion) was around 15 minutes and so,” Momen said.

He said when Bangladesh premier and her daughter Saima Wazed were talking to Joe Biden, PM’s Ambassador-at-Large Mohammad Ziauddin took out his cellphone to take a picture of that moment. “President Biden took his own cell phone and took a selfie,” he added.