

संयुक्त राष्ट्र स्थित भारत का स्थायी मिशन न्यूयॉर्क

PERMANENT MISSION OF INDIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

NEW YORK

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3 August 2017

The Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations has the honour to refer to the Secretary General's communication dated 7 April 2016 regarding the deposit by Bangladesh, pursuant to Article 16(2) of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, of a list of geographical coordinates of points concerning the Straight Baselines for measuring the breadth of the territorial sea of Bangladesh, as contained in notification S.R.O. No.328-Law/2015/MOFA/UNCLOS/113/2/15, dated 4 November 2015.

The Government of the Republic of India has noted that the Base points used by Bangladesh for drawing the straight baselines are at variance with the Base points used in the Award dated 7 July 2014 by the Arbitral Tribunal in the Matter of Bay of Bengal Maritime Boundary Arbitration between the People's Republic of Bangladesh and the Republic of India.

The Government of the Republic of India is of the view that the Exclusive Economic Zone of Bangladesh measured from baselines using Base point 2 (21° 36' 39.2"N; 89°22'14.0"E) and Base point 5 (Southern end of St Martin's Island – Coordinates not defined) results in seaward shift of Bangladesh's Exclusive Economic Zone and consequently encroaches into the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone in the Grey Area recognised by the Tribunal. Within this Grey Area, India's sovereign rights prevail in the Exclusive Economic Zone.

The Government of the Republic of India, therefore, objects to the use of the new Base points 2 and 5 by Bangladesh for determining its straight baselines and the resultant seaward shift of Bangladesh's Exclusive Economic Zone that encroaches into India's Exclusive Economic Zone in the Grey Area and thereby alters and violates the Award.

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The Government of the Republic of India wishes to recall that under Article 11 of Annex VII of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the Award is final and to be complied with by both Parties.

The Government of the Republic of India therefore reiterates/reasserts all its rights and those of its nationals in the waters in question.

The Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations avails of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary General of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

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