* **SAARC Regional Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters**

The SAARC Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters was signed at the Fifteenth Summit (Colombo, 02-03 August 2008).

The Thirty-seventh session of the Standing Committee (Thimphu, 25-26 April 2010) noted that the convention has been ratified by Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives and Sri Lanka.

During the Sixteenth Summit (Thimphu, 28-29 April 2010), the Heads of States or Government

underscored the importance of the Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters.

Thereafter during many meetings, it was urged from the remaining Member States (Afghanistan, Nepal and Pakistan) to ratify the convention at the earliest.

During the Seventh Meeting of the SAARC Ministers of Interior/Home preceded by the Seventh Meeting of the Interior/Home (Islamabad, 03-04 August 2016) and the Second Meeting of the High Level Group of the Eminent Experts to strengthen the SAARC Anti-terrorism Mechanism (New Delhi, 22-23 September 2016), the matter of the ratification by Afghanistan, Nepal and Pakistan was discussed and the delegations from Afghanistan, Nepal and Pakistan informed that the internal process of ratification is in progress.