

Staff Reporter

The third Bangladesh-India Joint Consultative Commission (JCC) meeting will be held in New Delhi, India from September 18-21.

Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali will lead the Bangladesh delegation at the meeting.

Indian External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj will lead the Indian side.

Various issues of bilateral importance will be discussed at the JCC to be held on September 20, said a Foreign Ministry media release on Monday.

The second JCC was held in Dhaka on February 16, 2013 where the two sides reviewed the entire gamut of bilateral relations and expressed satisfaction at the significant forward movement in implementation of the decisions taken including those of the first JCC meeting.

During the visit, the Foreign Minister will also pay courtesy calls on the President and the Prime Minister of India, and meet other Indian dignitaries.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her Indian counterpart Narendra Modi are likely to hold a meeting on the sidelines of the 69th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York on September 27 which is expected to take the bilateral ties to a newer height.

The Prime Minister is scheduled to leave here for New York on September 21 as the 69th UNGA begins on September 16.

Before the first-ever Hasina-Modi meeting after the January 5 elections here and the formation of new government in New Delhi, both the countries will have a chance to review the entire bilateral issues at the JCC.

A diplomatic source said the third JCC will get a wider spectrum this time with the active involvement of secretaries from both the countries.

Though the agenda of the JCC will remain 'more or less the same', Dhaka will push for the two major pending issues -- Land Boundary Agreement (LBA) and Teesta Water sharing deal between the two countries for their settlement at the earliest.