



গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

তথ্য অধিদফতর



PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

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Newsbrief

Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus yesterday left Italy for home a day after joining the funeral mass of Pope Francis at St. Peter's Square in Vatican City. Chief Adviser's Press Secretary Shafiqul Alam confirmed it. The Chief Adviser already arrived in Dhaka in the early hours today.

Catholic Church in Bangladesh will host an interfaith dialogue in September this year. Cardinal George Jacob Koovakad, who is the Vatican Prefect of the Dicastery for Interreligious Dialogue, made the announcement when he called on Bangladesh Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus at his hotel in Rome the day before yesterday. During the meeting, Professor Yunus stressed the need for continued dialogue among people of different faiths in Bangladesh.

Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus and Uruguay Foreign Minister Mario Lubetkin expressed their interest in enhancing cooperation between Latin America and Asia in a meeting. The aspiration came as Mario Lubetkin called on Professor Yunus at his hotel in Rome the day before yesterday, shortly after the Chief Adviser attended the funeral mass of Pope Francis. During their meeting, both leaders engaged in discussions on issues of mutual interest, focusing on the current global trade situation and the need to bridge cooperation between Latin America and Asia.

Silvano Maria Tomasi, Cardinal of the Holy Roman Church, called on Bangladesh Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus at his hotel in Italy the day before yesterday. The Bangladesh Chief Adviser joined the funeral mass of Pope Francis held at St. Peter's Square in Vatican City. Ahead of the funeral and after the service, the Chief Adviser exchanged greetings with some of the world leaders.

Foreign Affairs Adviser Md. Touhid Hossain said, Bangladesh favors a peaceful resolution to the India-Pakistan tensions over Kashmir, emphasizing dialogue and diplomacy as the means to ensure peace and stability across South Asia. The Adviser told reporters at the Foreign Ministry yesterday. The Foreign Adviser claimed that Bangladesh enjoys strong bilateral ties with both India and Pakistan. The Adviser said, Bangladesh would bring back any of its nationals detained in India, but verification is required to confirm their citizenship.

Considering environmental concerns, the government has decided to suspend the leasing process of 17 stone quarries out of 51 in the country. No leases will be given for quarries that are under court injunctions or located within declared Ecologically Critical Areas (ECA). This decision was taken yesterday at a meeting held at the conference room of the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources with Adviser Muhammad Faozul Kabir Khan in the chair. Environment, Forest and Climate Change Adviser Syeda Rizwana Hasan and Home Adviser Lieutenant General (Retd.) Md. Jahangir Alam Chowdhury were also present. Additionally, to preserve natural beauty, the leasing activities in the Bhulagonj, Utmachaora, Ratanpur, Bichanakandi, and Lovachora stone quarries of Sylhet district will also remain suspended.

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Women and Children Affairs and Social Welfare Adviser Sharmeen S Murshid said, domestic workers' rights are remained unprotected within the country's socio-economic framework due to their lack of educational opportunities. The Adviser made these remarks while addressing 'Policy Dialogue for the Protection of Domestic Workers and Improvement of Living Standards' as the chief guest, organized by Campaign for Popular Education (CAMPE) at CIRDAAP auditorium, said a PID handout yesterday. The Adviser also observed domestic workers are deprived of fair opportunities and facilities due to the non-implementation of the Domestic Workers Welfare Policy 2015.

The Election Commission published a gazette declaring Mohammad Ishraque Hossain, BNP's candidate during the 2020 city corporation election, as the Mayor of Dhaka South City Corporation. Commission Senior Secretary Akhtar Ahmed confirmed the information yesterday.

National Consensus Commission Vice-Chairman Professor Ali Riaz said, united efforts of the people have forced the fascist government to flee the country. Professor Ali Riaz made the remarks at the beginning of the discussion of the commission with the Gono Shonghoti Andolon at the LD Hall of the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban, said a PID handout yesterday. The discussion was attended by a 10-member delegation led by its chief coordinator Jonayed Saki.

The Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs and the Ministry of Home Affairs, within the next couple of days, will start publishing on website the list of politically motivated cases recommended by a ministry-level committee for withdrawal. Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Ministry spokesperson Dr. Md Rezaul Karim told reporters yesterday. Presided over by Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Adviser Dr. Asif Nazrul, the meeting decided to withdraw 517 more such cases. The committee in last four months proposed to withdraw a total of 8,832 politically motivated cases filed for harassment.

A court in Dhaka yesterday issued an arrest warrant through Interpol against Saima Wazed, daughter of ex Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, in a case lodged over alleged corruption in 10-katha-plot allocation in Purbachal New Town. Judge Md. Zakir Hossain of Dhaka Metropolitan Senior Special Judge's Court passed the order following an application placed by the Anti-Corruption Commission. Earlier, the same court issued arrest warrants against 18 individuals, including Sheikh Hasina and Saima Wazed, in connection with the case over fraud in Purbachal plot allocation on April 10.

Bangladesh's foreign exchange reserves stood at US\$26.79 billion, according to a press release of Bangladesh Bank yesterday.

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