



গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

তথ্য অধিদফতর



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

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**Newsbrief**

Apart from the public holiday on the voting day on February 12, the Council of Advisers approved a proposal declaring public holiday on February 11 to facilitate voter participation and ensure proper law and order management ahead of the polls. The Council gave the approval at its weekly meeting at the Chief Adviser's Office with Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus in the chair yesterday. The Advisory Council approved several key ordinances, proposals and policies. Chief Adviser also stressed on holding the forthcoming general elections slated for February 12 in a manner that it can set a standard for polls in the country in future. Later, Chief Adviser's Press Secretary Shafiqul Alam briefed the media at the Foreign Service Academy in the capital yesterday.

Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus called upon all to stand by the weak and help others with acquired knowledge to build a beautiful society. The Chief Adviser said this in a message on the occasion of Saraswati Puja, extending his sincere greetings and congratulations to the Hindu community. Noting that Bangladesh is a shining example of communal harmony the Chief Adviser said, all people irrespective of religions, caste, creed and color have been living in Bangladesh with mutual respect and harmony for thousands of years. The Chief Adviser also wished peace, welfare and prosperity to all citizens of Bangladesh.

Youth and Sports Adviser Dr. Asif Nazrul said, there is no possibility of Bangladesh travelling to India for the upcoming T20 World Cup, as the security situation there has not changed. The Adviser told reporters after a meeting with Bangladesh cricketers and Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) officials at a city hotel in Dhaka yesterday.

Home Adviser Lieutenant General (Retd) Md. Jahangir Alam Chowdhury said, there is no possibility of ballot snatching from polling stations in the upcoming national election, as around nine lakh members from law enforcement agencies will be deployed ahead of the polls. The Adviser made the remarks while speaking at the quarterly crime review and views exchange meeting organized by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of Bangladesh Police at the CID headquarters in Malibagh yesterday.

Disaster Management and Relief Adviser Faruk E Azam said, implementation of the Annual Development Programme (ADP) is one of the main tools for ensuring smooth in the country. The Adviser made the remarks while chairing a review meeting on the implementation and progress of ADP-listed projects and programmes for the 2025–26 fiscal year at the Disaster Management and Relief Ministry conference room yesterday.

Commerce Adviser Sheikh Bashir Uddin said, the government is actively working to make Bangladesh's export sector more diversified and competitive, reducing its overdependence on the readymade garments industry. The Adviser made the remarks while addressing a seminar titled 'Role of Competitiveness for Jobs Project on Export Diversification in Bangladesh' at the Bangladesh-China Friendship Exhibition Center in Purbachal yesterday.

US Ambassador Brent Christensen called on National Security Advisor Dr. Khalilur Rahman at the latter's office in Dhaka yesterday. The Adviser welcomed Ambassador Christensen as the new American Envoy to Bangladesh and recalled his many contributions to promoting bilateral relations during his previous stint in Dhaka and also in his various positions in the US government in Washington DC, said the Chief Adviser's Press Wing. During the meeting, they discussed key aspects of Bangladesh-US relations, including the reciprocal tariff agreement, support to the Rohingyas, immigration including visa bond and the return of undocumented Bangladeshis from the US and American business and investment in Bangladesh, as well as regional issues of common concern.

Special Assistant to the Chief Adviser and Chief Coordinator of Public Awareness Campaign Activities related to the Referendum Professor Ali Riaz said that the nation's success ultimately depends on the will of the people. The Special Assistant made the remarks while speaking at an exchange-of-views meeting aimed at referendum campaigning and voter motivation at the auditorium of the Divisional Commissioner's Office in Khulna yesterday.

Bangladesh and the United States (US) have expanded military medical cooperation as senior US Army medical leadership engaged with Bangladesh Army Medical Forces to strengthen partnerships and build future collaborative capacity. Major General E. Darrin Cox, Commanding General of the 18th Theater Medical Command, US Army Pacific, visited Bangladesh from January 18 to 22 to enhance medical cooperation with the Bangladesh Army Medical Forces, the US Embassy in Dhaka said yesterday.

Around 500 foreign election observers and journalists are expected to assess the election proceedings and file relevant reports on 12 February, said Election Commission Senior Secretary Akhtar Ahmed at a press briefing yesterday. The Senior Secretary also said that the vote counting process in this election could take more time than usual due to the counting of two different kinds' ballots – in-person and postal – and the presence of relatively higher number of candidates.



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