



গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

তথ্য অধিদফতর



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Newsbrief

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman addressed the nation with a comprehensive message outlining his government's priorities, pledging to restore democracy, strengthen the rule of law, equal rights, curb corruption and build a self-reliant and humane Bangladesh. The Prime Minister said this in his maiden televised address to the nation after assuming office. State-run broadcaster BTV aired the address yesterday. The Prime Minister also said, BNP government believes that party, opinion, religion and philosophy may differ individually, but the state belongs to all.

The first meeting of the new Cabinet of the present BNP government led by Prime Minister Tarique Rahman was held at the Cabinet Division in Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday. Prime Minister presided over the meeting. At the outset of the meeting, the Prime Minister exchanged pleasantries with his cabinet colleagues. Members of the newly sworn-in cabinet attended the meeting. Cabinet Secretary Nasimul Gani and Secretaries concerned were present, among others.

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman paid homage to the martyrs of the country's War of Liberation, a day after he took oath as the country's 11th Prime Minister. The Prime Minister paid tributes to the martyrs by placing floral wreath at the altar of the National Memorial in Savar yesterday. Later, flanked by the new Cabinet colleagues, he also placed another wreath at the altar of the National Memorial on behalf of his new cabinet. After laying the wreaths, they stood in solemn silence for some time as a mark of profound respect to the memories of the martyrs, who made supreme sacrifices for the cause of the country's independence in 1971. Later, Tarique Rahman signed the visitors' book and planted a sampling of 'Parijat' tree on the National Memorial premises.

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman paid homage to his father Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman and mother Begum Khaleda Zia, three-time Prime Minister, by placing wreaths at their graves at Zia Udyan in the capital's Sher-e-Bangla Nagar area yesterday. Later, flanked by the new Cabinet colleagues, the Prime Minister also placed another wreath at the graves. After placing the wreath, they offered 'Fateha' and prayed to Almighty Allah for eternal peace for the departed souls of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman and Begum Khaleda Zia.

Newly appointed Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives Minister Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir said, the government is committed to keeping its pledges to the country's people. The Minister told reporters at his ministry office here on his first working day. The Minister said, the existing problems will be resolved with the cooperation of all and local government elections will be held as soon as possible. Replying to a question, the Minister also said, he will work according to the expectations of the country's people and the instructions given by Prime Minister Tarique Rahman.

Finance Minister Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury said that Bangladesh must build such an economy which would ensure the participation of all citizens, regardless of class or profession. The Minister said this while addressing a reception programme held at the conference room of the Finance Ministry yesterday to welcome the newly-appointed Minister and State Minister.

Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed said, the mob culture in Bangladesh has ended with the BNP government assumed office through the landslide victory in the 13th parliament election. The Minister made the remarks while speaking to reporters on his first working day at the Home Ministry in Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday. The Home Minister also said, they will not tolerate any more occupying the highways and roads and mob culture in the name of realizing the demands.

Home Affairs Minister Salahuddin Ahmed said, maintaining law and order across the country is the foremost priority of the current government, alongside controlling commodity prices and ensuring uninterrupted supply of essential

services. Speaking to journalists after a meeting of newly appointed Ministers and State Ministers with Prime Minister Tarique Rahman at Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday. The Minister said, the government has adopted a 180-day special priority action plan to address pressing national issues. The Home Affairs Minister also said that in addition to the conventional 100-day initial plan of a new government, a comprehensive and detailed 180-day priority roadmap has been formulated.

Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Iqbal Hasan Mahmud Tuku said, the government is giving top priority to ensuring uninterrupted power supply during the holy month of Ramadan. The Minister said this while exchanging views with officials at the Ministry's conference room yesterday.

Liberation War Affairs Minister Hafiz Uddin Ahmed Bir Bikram urged officials to be more alert and responsible in ensuring due respect and dignity for freedom fighters. The Minister made the remarks while speaking at an exchange-of-views meeting with Ministry officials at the conference room of the Liberation War Affairs Ministry in the capital yesterday.

Newly appointed Minister for Social Welfare, Women and Children Affairs Abu Zafar Md. Zahid Hossain said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Tarique Rahman, everyone must work together to build the country. The Minister said this while exchanging views with the officials of the Social Welfare Ministry after joining as Minister at Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday.

Foreign Minister Dr. Khalilur Rahman declared that 'Bangladesh First' will anchor the country's foreign policy, stressing that Dhaka seeks to maintain good relations with all nations, particularly its neighbours, based on respect and mutual benefit. The Minister told reporters at the state guest house Padma yesterday.

Newly appointed Cultural Affairs Minister Nitai Roy Chowdhury stressed the need for working with new dream to build a new society and a new Bangladesh. To this end, the Minister also said, the country's heritages should be highlighted. The Minister made the remarks while exchanging views with officials of departments and entities under the Ministry at the Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday.

Labour and Employment and Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister Ariful Haque Choudhury said, the government's primary mission is to meet the expectations of the people. The Minister made the remarks while addressing an introductory meeting with officials and employees on his first day at the Ministry of Labour and Employment in Dhaka yesterday.

New Information and Broadcasting Minister Zahir Uddin Swapan said, the government's utmost priority ahead of the holy month of Ramadan is to control commodity prices, maintain a normal law and order situation and ensure uninterrupted power supply across the country. The Minister made the remarks while responding to questions from journalists after attending the meeting between newly appointed Ministers and State Ministers and Prime Minister Tarique Rahman at Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday.

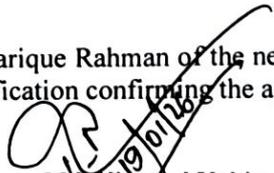
Information and Broadcasting Minister Zahir Uddin Swapan, MP, said that media development is not possible in any way without solving the problems of journalists. The Minister made the remarks while visiting the National Press Club yesterday and holding a courtesy meeting with journalists. The Minister also highlighted the importance of independent journalism to strengthen the media. State Minister for Information and Broadcasting Yeaser Khan Chowdhury, MP, was also present at the occasion.

Fisheries and Livestock Minister Mohammad Amin Ur Rashid said, agriculture, fisheries and livestock are the main pillars of the national economy; stressing that integrated planning and effective implementation in these sectors would make the country's overall economy stronger and more resilient. The Minister made the remarks while addressing a view-exchange meeting with officials at the conference room of the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock yesterday.

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Md. Asaduzzaman said that honesty is inseparably linked with the term 'judge', warning that no one involved in corruption would be spared. The Minister made the remarks while addressing an introductory meeting with officials and employees of both divisions at the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs yesterday on his first working day, following his oath-taking as Minister.

Newly appointed Health Minister Sardar Md. Sakhawat Hossain said that making the Ministry free from corruption is his top priority. The Minister said this while speaking at his office on his first working day after assuming office as a Minister at Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday.

Abu Abdullah M Saleh has been appointed as Press Secretary to Prime Minister Tarique Rahman of the newly elected government. The Ministry of Public Administration yesterday issued a gazette notification confirming the appointment, granting Saleh the status of a Government Secretary.


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