



গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

# তথ্য অধিদফতর



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

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting  
Press Information Department.  
Dhaka.

Most Urgent  
For: Bangladoot, All Missions  
MSG:268/2025-26  
Date: Wednesday, 25. 03. 2026

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## Newsbrief

President Mohammed Shahabuddin has called upon all, irrespective of religions, caste, party or opinion to work together being imbued by patriotism to fulfill the spirit and expectations of the martyrs of the Liberation War. In a message on the occasion of the 'Genocide Day' to be observed today, the Head of the State gratefully remembered all the martyrs of the motherland, including March 25 and prayed for the eternal peace of their departed souls.

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman said, March 25, 1971 remains one of the most disgraceful and brutal days in the history of freedom-loving Bangladesh. The Prime Minister also said, the genocide of March 25 was a pre-planned massacre. The Premier said this in a message issued yesterday on the occasion of Genocide Day. Through this resistance to genocide, the long nine-month armed Liberation War began, the Premier added. The Prime Minister also prayed to the Almighty Allah to grant forgiveness and eternal peace to the departed souls of all the martyrs.

The government has taken a comprehensive initiative to reform and modernize the traffic management system in a bid to reduce nagging traffic congestion in the capital. The decision came at a special meeting on 'Reducing Traffic Congestion in Dhaka City and Modernizing Traffic Management' held at the Prime Minister's Cabinet Division office in the Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday. Prime Minister Tarique Rahman presided over the meeting, said Prime Minister's Additional Press Secretary Atikur Rahman Ruman. Later, Director of the Asia and Pacific Department of the International Monetary Fund Krishna Srinivasan also paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Tarique Rahman.

Finance Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury said, the country's ongoing programme with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) remains on track. The Minister also said that the programme is expected to be reviewed further in the coming months, as the government moves forward with a series of economic reforms aimed at stabilising the financial sector and restoring growth. The Finance Minister was speaking to reporters after a meeting with IMF Asia and Pacific Department Director Krishna Srinivasan at the Finance Ministry yesterday. The Finance Minister also said, the IMF programme has been in place for several years and will continue, with the next review scheduled for July.

Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed said, the government will accept the ordinance providing indemnity to those involved in the July Mass Uprising. The Minister also said, the parliamentary special committee would discuss the ordinances, including those related to the caretaker government. The Minister made the remarks while speaking to journalists before attending a meeting of a parliamentary special committee at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban yesterday.

Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Iqbal Hassan Mahmood said that there is sufficient fuel oil in stocks and there will be no crisis of fuel oil. The Minister also said, there is no decision to increase the price of fuel oil right now. The Minister made the remarks while talking to reporters at his office at Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday. The Minister urged people not to create unnecessary long queues at petrol pumps as sufficient fuel available in the depots.

Foreign Minister Dr. Khalilur Rahman has reaffirmed Bangladesh's steadfast commitment to combating racism in all its forms, emphasizing the country's signing of all relevant international conventions on racism and racial discrimination. The Minister also called for strengthened global efforts to eliminate racism, promote equality, and uphold human dignity. The Minister made the call while addressing a commemorative meeting of the United Nations General Assembly marking the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in New York on Monday, according to a message yesterday.

Cultural Affairs Minister Advocate Nitai Roy Chowdhury emphasized the importance of remembering history for a nation's survival and said, Cultural Ministry has a plan to preserve the Kalurghat Radio Station and the memory of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman. The Minister said this to reporters after his visiting the historic Kalurghat Swadhin Bangla Radio Station in Chattogram yesterday.

Information and Broadcasting Minister Zahir Uddin Swapan said, good governance depends on learning from the history and maintaining the continuous practice of those lessons. The Minister said this while speaking at the unveiling and publication ceremony of the book 'Firey Dekha Shei Shomoy' (Revisiting Those Times), written by Debate for Democracy Chairman Hasan Ahmed Chowdhury Kiron, held at the CIRDAP Conference Centre in the capital yesterday. The Minister further said, a state can move forward on the right path only by learning from past experiences. While revisiting the past is a natural human tendency, documenting those memories and presenting them as learning materials for future generations is equally important, the Minister added.

Food, Fisheries and Livestock and Agriculture Minister Mohammad Amin Ur Rashid said that agriculture will serve as the primary driving force of the national economy. The Minister said this while speaking as the chief guest during an exchange of greetings with officials and employees of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Food following the Eid holidays at Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday.

The United Kingdom has expressed interest in participating in ground handling operations at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport's (HSIA) third terminal, signalling potential collaboration in Bangladesh's expanding aviation sector. British High Commissioner to Bangladesh Sarah Cooke conveyed the interest during a courtesy call on Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Afroza Khanam (Rita) at the Ministry, according to an official press release yesterday. State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism M. Rashiduzzaman Millat was also present at the meeting.

Water Resources Minister Shahid Uddin Chowdhury Anne alleged that massive corruption had taken place in the past in the name of mega projects, warning that corruption would not be tolerated under any circumstances. The Minister made the remarks while addressing a programme marking the assumption of office by newly appointed Lakshmipur Zila Parishad Administrator Sahabuddin Sabu at the district council ground yesterday.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Sardar Md. Sakhawat Hossain said, no unauthorized and substandard clinics will be allowed to operate in the country as part of efforts to improve the quality of healthcare services. The Minister told journalists after exchanging Eid greetings with officials and employees of the Ministry at the Secretariat in Dhaka yesterday.

State Minister for Textiles and Jute Md Shariful Alam said, the government is working to restore the lost heritage of Jamdani, alongside taking initiatives to boost the country's textile tradition and industry. The State Minister told reporters after visiting the ongoing 'Jamdani Village Project' area at Tarabo in Rugganj upazila of Narayanganj yesterday.

State Minister for Information and Broadcasting Yeaser Khan Chowdhury has called upon the officials of Bangladesh Television Chattogram Center to air time-befitting, attractive and quality programs and enrich the facility with advanced digitalized equipment by expediting the work of on-going development project. While visiting the center in the city's Foye's Lake area yesterday, the State Minister also directed the officials concerned to chalked-out and design creative and entertainment-based programs aiming at generating more revenue side by side disseminating government's various pro-people welfare-oriented schemes among the people.

State Minister for Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Nurul Haque Nur said, the government will provide loans up to Tk 1 million to students seeking higher education abroad to help them meet bank solvency requirements. The State Minister also said, the directive was given by Prime Minister Tarique Rahman to facilitate students intending to go to countries like South Korea, Japan, China and Germany. The State Minister told this to reporters after a meeting with the Prime Minister at the Secretariat yesterday.

  
25.03.2026  
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