



গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার



# তথ্য অধিদফতর

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

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## Newsbrief

Praising the armed forces for their contributions to safeguarding national security, Prime Minister Tarique Rahman directed them to protect sovereignty of the country and uphold dignity of the constitution, rising above party-affiliation and opinions. The Prime Minister also called upon the members of the armed forces to maintain public trust and stay committed to serving the nation with integrity, dedication and sacrifice. The Premier made the call while addressing a Darbar for the military officials at the Dhaka Cantonment Auditorium in Dhaka yesterday, said Prime Minister's Additional Press Secretary Atikur Rahman Ruman.

A meeting of the National Committee on Hajj Management was held with Prime Minister Tarique Rahman in the chair. The meeting was held at the Cabinet Room of the Prime Minister's Office in the Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday, said PM's Deputy Press Secretary Jahidul Islam Rony.

Prime Minister and BNP Chairman Tarique Rahman urged his party leaders and activists to assist the local administration and the law enforcement agencies to maintain peace and order across the country. The Prime Minister made the call while addressing Bogura district BNP leaders and activists at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban yesterday after oath taking ceremony of two newly elected Members of Parliament (MPs) from Bogura-6 and Sherpur-3 constituencies, said Prime Minister's Additional Press Secretary Atikur Rahman Ruman.

BNP Secretary General and LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Mirza Fakhurul Islam Alamgir yesterday expressed condolences at the death of Indian playback singer and businesswoman Asha Bhosle. The legendary artist passed away at a hospital in Mumbai on Sunday. In a condolence message, the Minister said, Asha Bhosle was a unique and iconic versatile artist in the musical history of the subcontinent. The Minister also conveyed deep sympathy to the bereaved family.

Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed said, the government is pledged bound to further refine several important ordinances including those related to Enforced Disappearance, Human Rights Commission and appointment of Supreme Court judges-through consultation with relevant stakeholders. The Minister said this while speaking at a press briefing at conference room of the Home Ministry yesterday. The Minister arranged the press conference for clarifying the government stance on 133 ordinances promulgated by the interim government. Speaking on the issue of the enforced disappearance commission, the Minister said, he himself was a victim of enforced disappearance.

Social Welfare and Women and Children Affairs Minister Abu Zafar Md. Zahid Hossain said, an international-standard DNA laboratory will be established in the capital to strengthen forensic capabilities amid rising demand for DNA testing. The Minister also said, DNA screening laboratories in all divisional cities will be gradually upgraded into fully functional DNA profiling laboratories. The Minister made the remarks while chairing a meeting of the Forensic DNA Laboratory Advisory Council at the National Science and Technology Complex in Agargaon yesterday.

US Ambassador to Bangladesh Brent T. Christensen paid a courtesy call on Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Abdul Awal Mintoo at his Ministry office yesterday. During the meeting, they discussed various issues of mutual interest, said a press release. State Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Sheikh Faridul Islam was also present. The Minister particularly sought US support in areas such as waste management, water pollution and air pollution control. US Ambassador Brent T. Christensen stressed the importance of coordinated initiatives on issues of mutual interest between the two countries. The Ambassador also underscored the need to enhance bilateral cooperation in forest conservation and preventing wildlife trafficking.

Information and Broadcasting Minister Zahir Uddin Swapon said that ensuring people's right to information remains one of the top priorities of the incumbent government, alongside protecting citizens from misinformation and disinformation. The Minister made the remarks while addressing a view-exchange meeting with members of the core group of the Right to Information Forum at the Ministry's meeting room at Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday.

Fisheries, Livestock and Agriculture Minister Mohammed Aminur Rashid said, primarily 22,065 farmers are getting Farmers' Card or Krishi Card across the country aiming to bring the country's agriculture, fisheries and livestock under a smart database. The Agriculture Minister said this in a press conference at the PID conference room at the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting yesterday. Prime Minister Tarique Rahman will inaugurate the card distribution ceremony in Tangail during the Pahela Baishakh, the first day of Bengali New Year, the Minister added.

Road Transport and Bridges, Railways and Shipping Minister Shaikh Rabiul Alam stressed the need for collective efforts to ensure road safety, saying government initiatives alone are not enough to curb accidents. The Minister said, during a meeting with a delegation of Nirapad Sarak Chai (Nischa) at his office at Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday. During the meeting, the two sides held detailed discussions on the prevailing road safety situation in the country, measures to reduce accidents and ways to enhance public awareness.

Dhaka is eyeing US investment and technological support to modernize its transport system. This was revealed when US Ambassador to Bangladesh Brent T. Christensen paid a courtesy call on Road Transport and Bridges, Railways and Shipping Minister Sheikh Rabiul Alam at his Secretariat office yesterday. During the meeting, the two sides discussed issues of mutual interest, focusing on ongoing development activities in Bangladesh's road, rail and water transport sectors and prospects for enhanced cooperation. Ambassador Christensen reaffirmed continued US cooperation in road safety, modern transport systems and sustainable infrastructure development.

Bangladesh urged Tehran to facilitate safe passage of Bangladesh-bound vessels through the Strait of Hormuz amid violent Persian Gulf crisis as Iranian Ambassador Jalil Rahimi Jahanabadi paid a courtesy call on State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shama Obaed Islam at the Foreign Ministry yesterday. The Foreign Ministry issued a statement in this regard. The State Minister also assured the Envoy of Bangladesh's full cooperation in discharging his duties.


State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shama Obaed Islam underscored the need to further strengthen Bangladesh's cooperation with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to enhance humanitarian response and disaster resilience. The State Minister made the remark when Head of IFRC Delegation Alberto Bocanegra Vidal called on her at the Foreign Ministry, according to a Ministry press release yesterday.

ILO Country Director Max Tunon met with State Minister for Youth and Sports Md. Aminul Haque at the latter's office in the Ministry yesterday. During the meeting, the State Minister said, the current government is giving top priority to creating employment opportunities for youth. Various training programs are being conducted through the Department of Youth Development in different trades, which are enhancing skills and making young people self-reliant.

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman will inaugurate this year's Hajj flights from Dhaka on April 18, State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism M. Rashiduzzaman Millat confirmed it yesterday. The State Minister said that, compared to the previous government, the cost of Hajj travel has been reduced by Taka 12,000 per ticket this year. Besides, the State Minister said that more than 78,000 pilgrims will be transported without operating any chartered flights.

State Minister for Health and Family Welfare Dr. MA Muhit inaugurated the measles-rubella vaccination campaign in the capital yesterday. This special vaccination programme was inaugurated at Ershad Maidan in Banani.

Prime Minister's Office Spokesperson Mahdi Amin said that Malaysia's labour market would soon reopen for Bangladeshi workers. The Adviser disclosed this while briefing journalists at the Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday on his and Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister Ariful Haque Chowdhury's recent visit to Malaysia.



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