

DAILY BANGLADESH WATCH

22 June 2026

Takeaways

Politics

- ◆ **Jamaat ameer says Govt trying to establish one-party rule like Awami League:** The government is attempting to establish a one-party rule in the country, similar to the previous Awami League government, alleges Shafiqur Rahman, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Ameer of Jamaat-e-Islami. Issuing a stern warning to the government that the people of Bangladesh would not accept such a system, he expressed hope that the government would abandon its 'flawed policies' and return to people-oriented and public-welfare-driven governance. Shafiqur Rahman made these remarks while speaking as the chief guest at an activists' conference held at Masdair Eidgah in Narayanganj on Friday morning (*Prothom Alo*, [19 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Jamaat ameer says prepare for another inevitable revolution if needed:** Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer and Leader of the Opposition Dr Shafiqur Rahman on Saturday said the verdict of the people's referendum and the July Charter must be implemented. He said if a solution is not reached in parliament on the issue, they will go to people across the country and present their position. "Where we do not need the Speaker's permission to speak, we will speak with the people. A mass awakening will take place across the country," he said. The Jamaat chief made the remarks while addressing a divisional rally organized by the 11-party alliance at Khulna Circuit House ground on Saturday afternoon. **Calling upon the youth, Shafiqur Rahman said, "You removed fascism through the July revolution. Now, if necessary, be prepared for another inevitable revolution to remove neo-fascism."** Student's movement was not aimed at putting any individual, family or group in power, but at building an independent, sovereign, accountable and humane Bangladesh, he added. Alleging widespread irregularities in the February 12 national election, Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer Shafiqur Rahman said the party had accepted the results despite deep grievances to avert a civil war. "We don't want disorder in the country. We love the country. With immense pain in our hearts, we accepted the election results. But let no one think that we accepted them out of fear; we did so to prevent the country from descending into a civil war," he said while addressing a rally in Khulna (*Dhaka Tribune*, [20 June 2026](#); *The Daily Star*, [21 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Jamaat to revive its youth unit:** Jamaat-e-Islami is stepping up the activities of its youth unit across the country to strengthen its organisational base among young people and increase their involvement in political and social initiatives. According to Jamaat leaders, the youth unit is gaining renewed importance as the party seeks to keep young members engaged after their student years and involve them in community-based activities. The initiative is also aimed at expanding the party's political presence and nurturing future leaders. As part of this effort, Jamaat reconstituted the committee of its Dhaka North Metropolitan Youth Unit on May 19. At a conference of departmental officials, former central president of Islami Chhatra Shibir Yasin Arafat was named president, while Mostafa Faisal Parvez was appointed general secretary (*The Daily Star*, [20 June 2026](#)).

- ◆ **No threat around Awami League's founding anniversary, but police remain alert:** Police see no specific security threat surrounding the founding anniversary of the Awami League, whose activities are currently banned. However, law enforcement agencies remain on alert. The remarks were made this morning by SN Nazrul Islam, Additional Commissioner (Crime and Operations) of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP), during a press briefing at the DMP Media Centre on Minto Road in the capital. **The Awami League's founding anniversary falls on 23 June.** Responding to a question on the issue, Nazrul Islam said, "Various programmes take place throughout the year. The major event ahead of us is the observance of 10 Muharram, or Ashura. At the same time, 23 June marks the founding anniversary of a political party. We are maintaining the highest level of vigilance. Checkpoints, patrols, special operations, and all necessary security measures to ensure public safety are in place and will continue" (*Prothom Alo*, [19 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Police block Azad Party's torch procession towards Indian High Commission:** The Bangladesh Azad Party brought out a torch procession towards the Indian High Commission in Dhaka in protest against what it described as illegal push-ins and "Indian hegemony". The procession was stopped by police after it reached Gulshan-1 Circle, where the demonstrators later staged a sit-in protest. Gulshan Police Station Inspector (Investigation) Mokhlesur Rahman confirmed the incident to The Daily Star. Among those present at the protest rally were Bangladesh Azad Party President Lt Col (retd) Hasinur Rahman, Barrister ASM Shahriar Kabir, and Rashed Prodhan, spokesperson for the Jatiya Ganatantrik Party (Jagpa), along with leaders and activists from several other organisations. Addressing the gathering, Rashed Prodhan said, "Anyone who questions my country's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity will face a renewed struggle." **The Bangladesh Azad Party was launched on April 20 with the stated goal of establishing "a state based on justice and fairness" and building "a Bangladesh free from Indian hegemony"** (*The Daily Star*, [20 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Salahuddin brands Awami League a 'mafia group':** Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed has said he does not consider the Awami League a political party, describing it instead as a "mafia group", and added that its activities remain banned. However, while briefing journalists at the home ministry, he added that the police have been instructed to remain alert ahead of the party's founding anniversary on June 23. Referring to the arrest of former IGP Benazir Ahmed from the United Arab Emirates, the minister expressed hope that UAE authorities would complete legal procedures and facilitate his repatriation soon. He said the home ministry was working on the matter with due urgency, adding that the UAE had requested Bangladesh to submit required documents within 30 days. On June 18, PHQ issued a nationwide alert over fears of possible clashes between Awami League activists and members of other political parties, centring on the party's founding anniversary on June 23. According to the PHQ notification, leaders and activists of the Awami League may try to hoist party flags at local offices and bring out processions carrying banners to mark the anniversary across different districts. Such activities could lead to confrontations with activists of other political parties, especially members of the National Citizen Party and the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement, the platform that led the July uprising, creating risks of deterioration in the law and order situation, the notification said (*The Daily Star*, [20 June 2026](#), [21 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Chaos in Parliament over budget, border killings, and PM remarks:** Parliament witnessed heated exchanges and chaos on Sunday during a general discussion on the proposed budget, after the ruling BNP demanded the expunction of remarks made by an opposition lawmaker regarding

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman. The turmoil began during a session presided over by Deputy Speaker Barrister Kayser Kamal when Abdul Hannan Masud, a lawmaker from the opposition National Citizen Party (NCP), took the floor. On the issue of border killings, Masud accused the current administration of echoing the “Indian language” used by the previous “fascist Awami League government.” He challenged the Home Minister’s assertion that not all border deaths should be classified as killings, stating, “Every border killing is a murder and a threat to our sovereignty” (*Times of Bangladesh*, [21 June 2026](#)); *Prothom Alo*, [21 June 2026](#)).

- ◆ **Human chain in Rangamati demands Dipen Dewan's reinstatement as minister:** A human chain and protest rally were held on Sunday in front of the office of the deputy commissioner of Rangamati, demanding the reinstatement of local MP Dipen Dewan as a full-fledged minister and changes in the administration of the hill tracts affairs portfolio. The program was organized under the banner of Parbatya Chittagong Nagorik Samaj. Participants called for the restructuring of the Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs in line with the Chittagong Hill Tracts Agreement, and demanded that a representative from the indigenous communities be appointed as a full minister instead of a state minister from outside the hill communities. Speakers at the event said the current arrangement was not aligned with the provisions of the agreement and urged the government to restore what they described as the “proper ministerial status” for representation from the hill districts. They also called for the removal of what they described as administrative stagnation and deterioration of law and order in the region (*Dhaka Tribune*, [21 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **RAB warns action over attempts to disrupt law and order ahead of AL founding anniversary:** RAB-2 Commander Naymul Hasan has warned that strict action will be taken against anyone attempting to disrupt law and order using weapons ahead of June 23, the founding anniversary of the Awami League. He made the remarks on Sunday during a press briefing at the RAB-2 office in Mohammadpur, held in connection with the arrest of five alleged mugger. Responding to a question regarding security arrangements surrounding June 23, the RAB-2 commander said, “No one will be spared if they attempt to disrupt law and order” (*Dhaka Tribune*, [21 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **‘We’ll kill you’: Viral video captures threat to police from Gazipur Jubo League rally:** A video of a rally organised under the banner of Jubo League in Gazipur city has gone viral on social media. Jubo League's activities remain banned. The incident has sparked widespread discussion after a participant in the rally was heard making a threatening remark in the video. The rally was brought out in front of a garment factory along the Dhaka-Mymensingh highway in Choydana Maleker Bari area. In the video circulating on social media, one protester was heard saying, “Not a single one of you should come forward; we will kill you outright.” According to eyewitnesses, the individual made the remark as police were approaching the procession. Bason Police Station Officer-in-Charge (OC) Mohammad Harun Or Rashid told The Daily Star that Jubo League leaders and activists took part in the rally in the morning. However, no one has been detained in connection with the incident so far. The video quickly spread across social media, triggering widespread criticism. Local sources said the rally was organised to mark the founding anniversary of Awami League on June 23, whose activities remain banned (*The Daily Star*, [21 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **AL files case against Hasnat, other NCP leaders with United Kingdom court:** The deposed Awami League’s activists have filed a case against four leaders and activists, including

National Citizen Party chief organiser (Southern Region) and Cumilla-4 lawmaker Hasnat Abdullah, for allegedly ‘beating AL activists’ during their recent visit to the UK. The other accused are NCP leaders Ehtesham Haque, Zakir Chowdhury and Shahin Alam. Several unidentified individuals have also been named in the case. The NCP UK Alliance confirmed the matter in a statement signed by its member secretary Md M A Himel on Saturday. It said supporters of the Awami League and the ‘fallen fascist government’ in the United Kingdom have launched a new campaign following what it described as continued propaganda and harassment against Hasnat Abdullah and his associates. The statement alleged that a case was filed at a police station accusing Hasnat Abdullah, Ehtesham Haque, Zakir Chowdhury, Shahin Alam and others of assaulting Awami League leaders and activists, which it claimed was an attempt to waste police time. The statement further said a UK-based specialist agency has launched an investigation into the alleged activities of the banned Awami League, its potential impact on public safety and the law-and-order situation in the UK (*New Age*, [21 June 2026](#)).

Economy

- ◆ **Ministers visit Teesta Barrage, stress sustainable river management:** Two ministers and a state minister today visited the Teesta Barrage area and underscored the need for coordinated and sustainable river management to address the long-standing challenges facing the Teesta basin. The delegation comprised Disaster Management and Relief Minister Asadul Habib Dulu, Water Resources Minister Md. Shahiduddin Chowdhury Anee and State Minister for Water Resources Farhad Hossain Azad. They arrived at the Teesta Barrage area in Lalmonirhat this afternoon and inspected different sections of the barrage and adjoining areas, which play a crucial role in agriculture, irrigation and water management in the country's northern region. The visit was aimed at assessing the overall condition of the Teesta basin, including river erosion, flood control measures and future water management strategies. Later, the ministers attended an exchange-of-views meeting with officials of the Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) at the Teesta Abasar conference room. Water Resources Minister Shahid Uddin Chowdhury Anee has said it is possible to permanently safeguard the people living along the Teesta banks from river erosion and flooding through well-planned embankments and dredging. **Water Resources Minister Shahid Uddin Chowdhury Annie has said that the Teesta Master Plan will soon be approved by the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC), just as the Padma Barrage project was approved.** Speaking at the event, the minister said, “The importance of the Teesta Master Plan extends beyond this region; it is of great significance to the entire country. That is why Prime Minister Tarique Rahman made a commitment before the nation while addressing the ‘Jago Bahe’ (Save the Teesta River) movement ahead of the election. Insha’Allah, our visit here today is part of fulfilling that commitment.” Dulu also said that **implementing the Teesta Master Plan would require approximately Tk 120-130 billion (12,000-13,000).** In his view, there is no need to depend on foreign funding for the project (*BSS News*, [19 June 2026](#); *bdnews24.com*, [19 June 2026](#); *Prothom Alo*, [19 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Padma Barrage project important for national interest:** Water Resources Minister Md Shahiduddin Chowdhury Anee on Sunday said the Padma Barrage Project is highly important and feasible for the national interest, particularly for the country’s water resources management, agriculture, fisheries, environment, and regional economic development. “The project has been approved following comprehensive scrutiny and evaluation, considering the

overall situation, long-term planning, and the need to safeguard national interests,” he said. The minister said this while replying to a tabled written question placed in Parliament by opposition member Md Nurul Islam from the Chapainawabganj-3 constituency. **He said arrangements have also been made to appoint national and international expert consultants to ensure the effective implementation of the project** (*Dhaka Tribune*, [21 June 2026](#)).

Foreign Policy

- ◆ **Bangladesh, Nepal eye deeper energy partnership:** Bangladesh and Nepal on Thursday signaled a push for deeper energy integration as electricity imports from Nepal resumed for a new season, with leaders from both countries describing the cross-border power trade as a stepping stone toward a broader regional energy partnership. **Speaking at a program marking the restart of electricity flow from Nepal to Bangladesh, Nepal’s Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation Minister Biraj Bhakta Shrestha recalled the historic beginning of power exports to Bangladesh in 2024 and expressed confidence that cooperation between the two countries would continue to expand. In a video message, he called for stronger collective efforts to build a long-term and sustainable energy partnership, emphasizing the growing importance of regional collaboration in addressing future energy needs.** The resumption of power imports comes as Bangladesh seeks to diversify its energy sources amid rising electricity demand and growing concerns over dependence on imported fossil fuels (*Dhaka Tribune*, [20 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Govt seeks Japanese help to open 3rd terminal by Dec 16:** Bangladesh has sought Japan’s support to make sure the remaining work on the third terminal of Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport is completed within the stipulated timeframe, as the government remains committed to inaugurate the facility on December 16. The issue was discussed during a meeting on Saturday between foreign minister Khalilur Rahman and Japanese ambassador to Bangladesh Saida Shinichi at the foreign ministry. State minister for civil aviation M Rashiduzzaman Millat was also present at the meeting. Speaking to reporters after the meeting, Millat said that the inauguration of the airport’s third terminal was one of the key issues discussed with the Japanese envoy. **The state minister said that Bangladesh had requested the Japanese ambassador to facilitate the completion of the remaining work by Sumitomo Corporation, one of the project’s principal partners** (*New Age*, [20 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **UN calls for more land for Rohingyas in Bangladesh:** Bangladesh is yet to take a decision on a fresh call of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for more land for the newly arrived 1.5 lakh Rohingyas in Bangladesh. The Office of the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner chief Mizanur Rahman told New Age on Saturday that the UNHCR had once again placed the demand to Bangladesh for allocating more land for constructing shelters for Rohingyas. **In a letter to RRRC in April, 2025, the UNHCR pressed for ensuring accommodation of 1.13 lakh more Rohingyas, who entered Bangladesh between November 2023 and April 27, 2025.** Bangladesh foreign ministry’s Myanmar Wing director general Md Toufiq-ur-Rahman said that the intense crowd in the camp areas was a concern of the donors (*New Age*, [20 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Bangladesh renews call for Rohingya repatriation at UN:** Bangladesh has renewed its call for the early repatriation of Rohingya refugees to Myanmar, saying the displaced people want to return to their homeland and that the prolonged crisis continues to impose heavy burdens on

Bangladesh. Speaking at a UN briefing by the Secretary-General's Special Envoy on Myanmar, Bangladesh Permanent Representative to the United Nations Ambassador Salahuddin Noman Chowdhury said the Rohingya crisis originated in Myanmar and its durable solution must also be found there, according to a message received in Dhaka today, Saturday morning. He called for stronger international support and sustained attention to the issue to ensure accountability and address the root causes that forced the Rohingyas to flee their homeland (*Prothom Alo*, [20 June 2026](#)).

- ◆ **FM urges UK to sustain leadership role in Rohingya repatriation:** Foreign Minister Dr. Khalilur Rahman urged the United Kingdom to maintain its leadership role in international efforts to ensure the safe, voluntary, dignified and sustainable repatriation of forcibly displaced Rohingyas to Myanmar. He made the call when British High Commissioner Sarah Cooke paid a courtesy call on him at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs here this afternoon, according to a ministry press release. During the meeting, the foreign minister appreciated the United Kingdom's continued support for the Rohingya people. They also discussed ways to further strengthen bilateral cooperation in areas of mutual interest, including trade and investment, education, migration and skills development (*BSS News*, [20 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Foreign advisor says Bangladesh to decide foreign visits based on national interest, bilateral necessity:** Foreign Affairs Adviser Humaiun Kobir on Saturday said Prime Minister Tarique Rahman will visit India if necessary and if a conducive environment exists, but stressed that Bangladesh will henceforth decide all foreign visits based strictly on national interest. Speaking to reporters at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Saturday, he said decisions on foreign trips will no longer be influenced externally and will be made independently by the government. "The Prime Minister will visit India if necessary and if the environment is conducive," Kobir said, adding that all foreign visit decisions will be guided by bilateral needs and national interest. He said Bangladesh is now pursuing a fully sovereign foreign policy in which engagement with global partners is determined by practical priorities rather than external pressure. "When we feel a visit is necessary based on bilateral understanding, only then will we decide which country to go to," he said. **Responding to questions on possible visits to major countries including the United States, China and India, Kobir said Bangladesh will travel abroad whenever required and under suitable circumstances** (*Dhaka Tribune*, [20 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **PM Tarique's first foreign tour targets mega trade pact:** Bangladesh is set to make a strong push for membership in the world's largest free trade bloc as Prime Minister Tarique Rahman begins his first official foreign tour since taking office, with regional economic integration, labour migration and investment cooperation dominating the agenda of his visit to Malaysia. **Officials say Dhaka will use the visit to seek support from Malaysia and other Asean member states for Bangladesh's bid to become a Sectoral Dialogue Partner (SDP) of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) and eventually join the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), a mega trade bloc that accounts for nearly one-third of global trade and economic output.** The move comes as Bangladesh prepares for its graduation from the Least Developed Country (LDC) category and looks to secure broader market access, attract investment and strengthen economic ties across Asia. **A key issue for Bangladesh will be the recruitment of additional workers and professionals in Malaysia, alongside efforts to improve welfare, facilities and employment opportunities for Bangladeshi migrants already working there.** The two sides are also expected to discuss cooperation in the halal economy, semiconductor manufacturing, agriculture, education and people-to-people connectivity. Officials said a memorandum of understanding on cultural cooperation is expected to be

signed during the visit. Bangladesh and Malaysia are also likely to exchange a Terms of Reference document to formally begin negotiations on a bilateral Free Trade Agreement. Beyond economic issues, Dhaka will urge Malaysia and other Asean countries to play a more active role in resolving the Rohingya crisis and supporting the safe repatriation of displaced Myanmar nationals currently sheltered in Bangladesh (*Dhaka Tribune*, [20 June 2026](#)).

- ◆ **Teesta project, defence ties and Xi Jinping initiatives to feature in Tarique's China agenda:** Prime Minister Tarique Rahman's scheduled visit to Beijing will include discussions on the Teesta project, defence cooperation and possible participation in Chinese President Xi Jinping's four global initiatives, Foreign Secretary Asad Alam Siam has said. He also said **Bangladesh and China are likely to sign between 15 and 17 agreements and memoranda of understanding (MoUs) during the visit. At a briefing on the premier's Malaysia and China tour, he said on Saturday that the discussions with President Xi and Premier Li Qiang would cover a broad range of issues, including water management and strategic cooperation.** The documents slated to be signed include 13 MoUs, two agreements, one action plan and one protocol, he said. Responding to questions on transboundary river issues, including upstream Chinese dam construction on the Yarlung Tsangpo–Brahmaputra, the foreign secretary said integrated water management would be a key area of discussion. **He added that Bangladesh would raise the Teesta issue during the talks, alongside broader river management concerns. On the proposed financing of the Teesta masterplan, he said feasibility studies had been revisited but discussions were still at an early stage** (*bdnews24.com*, [20 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Prime Minister's Beijing trip emphasises political proximity:** Following a summit meeting between Prime Minister Tarique Rahman and Chinese Premier Li Qiang, the two countries are set to issue a joint communique on 26 June. This will be the third time the two nations have issued a joint communique following the golden jubilee of Dhaka-Beijing relations. This will be Prime Minister Tarique Rahman's first visit to China. Diplomatic sources in Dhaka and Beijing told Prothom Alo that during his visit to Beijing, Prime Minister Tarique Rahman will hold a meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping. He will also hold bilateral talks with Chinese Premier Li Qiang.. **According to diplomatic analysts, his meetings with the top three leaders of the Chinese Communist Party (CPC) during the visit send a clear message regarding the strengthening of political relations between the two countries. According to diplomatic sources, ahead of the Prime Minister's visit, an MoU between the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and the Communist Party of China (CPC) has been finalised for signing. Officials involved in preparing for the Prime Minister's visit have stated that during this trip, Bangladesh is expected to announce its alignment with the GDI (Global Development Initiative), which is one of the four recent foreign policy initiatives of the Chinese President. Once signed, this will mark Bangladesh's inclusion in a major global initiative by China after nearly 10 years. According to diplomatic and geopolitical analysts, the Prime Minister's current visit will add a new dimension to relations, surpassing any previous period. In particular, the geopolitical competition between China, India, and the United States is no secret. Consequently, it is crucial for Bangladesh to maintain a three-way balance while safeguarding national interests** (*Prothom Alo*, [20 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **"You won't regret betting on US":** US Ambassador to Dhaka Brent Christensen has sought support from Bangladeshis for his team as the United States secured a spot in the second round by defeating Australia in the World Cup. He also mentioned that betting on the United States will not lead to regret. He made this statement in response to journalists' questions after

a meeting with Foreign Minister Khalilur Rahman at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Saturday afternoon. **Leaving the meeting, Christensen avoided discussing bilateral issues and highlighted the United States' significant victory in the football World Cup match.** The US Ambassador met with the Foreign Minister at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the day before Prime Minister Tarique Rahman's first foreign visit to Malaysia and China. However, the Prime Minister's Foreign Affairs Advisor Humaiun Kobir described Saturday's meeting, which took place on a weekly holiday, as a "routine meeting" (*Prothom Alo*, [20 June 2026](#)).

- ◆ **Pakistani high commissioner calls on education minister ANM Milon:** Pakistan High Commissioner to Bangladesh Imran Haider paid a courtesy call on Education and Primary and Mass Education Minister Dr A N M Ehsanul Hoque Milon. The meeting was held at the minister's office at the Secretariat. During the meeting, the two sides discussed the overall development of education in both countries, issues of mutual interest, and various new initiatives. **"To enhance these skills, special initiatives have already been taken to effectively incorporate technical and vocational education into the mainstream curriculum. There is significant scope for Bangladesh and Pakistan to work together in such skill development-oriented education sectors,"** he added. He invited a Bangladeshi delegation to visit Pakistan and observe firsthand the overall progress of its Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programmes. **At the end of the meeting, High Commissioner Imran Haider presented 1,000 footballs to the minister as a gift to support the improvement of sports standards and physical development of school and college students in Bangladesh** (*BSS News*, [21 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **IGCC celebrates 12th Int'l Day of Yoga:** The Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre at the High Commission of India in Dhaka celebrated the 12th International Day of Yoga 2026 with a vibrant gathering at Bashundhara Sports City on Sunday. The event brought together a large number of yoga enthusiasts, students, wellness practitioners, and distinguished guests. The main event marked the culmination of an extensive series of outreach activities organised in the lead-up to IDY 2026. Following a curtain-raiser event on 6 May 2026, the IGCC organised and supported more than 36 yoga-related pre-events across Bangladesh in collaboration with local yoga institutes, media organisations, and educational institutions, helping to raise awareness and encourage wider public participation. **A yoga programme was organised in Rajshahi, presided over by Manoj Kumar, Assistant High Commissioner of India. Land Minister Mizanur Rahman Minu has said yoga serves as a unique symbol of the enduring friendship and mutual trust between Bangladesh and India.** He made the remarks while addressing a discussion marking the 12th International Yoga Day 2026 in Rajshahi on Sunday afternoon. The minister said the relationship between Bangladesh and India is built on friendship, cultural affinity and unwavering mutual confidence. He described yoga as an ancient tradition of the region with a history spanning thousands of years (*New Age*, [21 June 2026](#); *BSS News*, [21 June 2026](#)).

Security

- ◆ **BGB blocks BSF 'push-in attempt' at Meherpur border:** Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) has thwarted an alleged attempt to push four people into Bangladesh through the Meherpur border. The move was made through Khalpara of Buripota border in Sadar Upazila, according to Lt Col Nazmul Hasan, commanding officer of BGB-6 Battalion. The incident occurred before dawn on Friday. **The BGB moved into position after local residents reported unusual activity across the zero line near the border.** According to the BGB, the Natna Border Security Force

(BSF) camp under Tehatta Police Station in India's Nadia district is located opposite the area. After being alerted by residents, BGB personnel monitored the border and spotted four people near the frontier. When attempts were allegedly made to bring them into Bangladesh, the BGB took a firm stance and prevented their entry (*bdnews24.com*, [19 June 2026](#)).

- ◆ **BGB, locals foil BSF's 'latest push-in' attempt in Lalmonirhat:** Amid continued reports of infiltration efforts, the Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) has claimed to have blocked yet another attempt by its Indian counterpart to “push-in” several people through the border of Lalmonirhat’s Patgram Upazila. Lt Col Syed Fazle Munim, commander of the 61st BGB Battalion, said the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) tried to push several men, women, and children through a barbed-wire gate at the Tepurgari border in Patgram around 1:30am on Friday. Noticing the matter, locals immediately informed the patrol team of the BGB's Kalirhat camp, he said. Subsequently, BGB members and locals resisted the “push-in” attempt, Lt Col Munim said, adding that the BGB has intensified surveillance along the border. Earlier this month, the paramilitary force thwarted several similar “push-in” attempts by the BSF (*bdnews24.com*, [19 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **BGB turns back 20 at Chapainawabganj border after BSF ‘push-in attempt’:** The Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) has turned back 20 people at the Chapainawabganj border after India's Border Security Force (BSF) reportedly tried to push them across late at night. The attempt was made through the Chouka border in Shibganj Upazila on Friday, Mahananda Battalion 59 BGB Commanding Officer Lt Col Md Tajul Islam Chowdhury said on Saturday morning. The group comprised 11 men, five women and four children. A BGB patrol spotted the attempt and blocked their entry into Bangladesh, the border troopers said. Faced with resistance, the 20 remained in the no-man's land on the Indian side of the border before the BSF took them back across the wire around noon, local Union Parishad member Badshah Ali said. Their identities, nationalities and how they came to be at the border remain unknown. Lt Col Tajul said the patrol team's alertness made it possible to foil the push-in attempt (*bdnews24.com*, [20 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Tuku for united efforts to prevent drug smuggling from neighboring countries:** State Minister for Fisheries and Livestock Sultan Salauddin Tuku today said neighboring countries are infiltrating drugs into Bangladesh through various means in an attempt to destroy the young and future generations. “If the youth society is destroyed, it will become easier to control them (by neighboring),” he said while speaking as the chief guest at a football tournament organized in the Dainya Chowdhury West Para village of Tangail Sadar Upazila. The State Minister said, “Everyone is aware of where drugs come from. These drugs are entering from the neighboring countries. They want our country to sbecome weak and crippled. Therefore, everyone must be vigilant and united from their respective positions.” He further said that drugs will not be allowed to enter Tangail Sadar under any circumstances. “We will say no to drugs and welcome sports. The next generations must be built as a drug-free youth society through sports,” said Tuku, lawmaker for Tangail-5 constituency (*BSS News*, [19 June 2026](#)).

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