

DAILY BANGLADESH WATCH

29 June 2026

Takeaways

Politics

- ◆ **Dhaka optimistic about return of Osman Hadi murder suspects:** Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed said the government is hopeful of bringing back the accused in the Osman Hadi murder case from India. The home minister said the Indian government had arrested three suspected killers of Osman Hadi, and they were probably in Kolkata. "A case has been filed against them with a court as per the law. We have already sent the necessary documents related to the case, as per the agreement (with India), through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs," he said. "We are waiting and hoping to get them back. Besides, we will be able to submit the charge sheet after completing the investigation into the case," Salahuddin said. He made the comments while talking to reporters after attending a meeting at the Osmani Memorial Auditorium (*BSS News*, [26 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **More than 200 NCP activists join BNP in Savar:** More than 200 leaders and activists of the National Citizen Party, led by its Dhaka North district youth wing convener Senjuti Hossain, joined the Bangladesh Nationalist Party at a programme in Savar on Friday. Senjuti Hossain, who was introduced as a July movement activist and convener of the NCP's youth wing in Dhaka North, formally joined the BNP by presenting a bouquet to BNP central leader and lawmaker for the Dhaka-19 constituency, Dewan Mohammad Salahuddin Babu (*New Age*, [26 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **We have sought to protect country's interests through a 'Bangladesh first' policy: PM tells parliament:** Prime Minister and Leader of Parliament Tarique Rahman stated that during his visits to Malaysia and China, he sought to protect the interests of the country and the people of Bangladesh. The Prime Minister said that the core principle of the BNP (Bangladesh National Party) is "Bangladesh First" and that he worked prioritising the interests of the country from that position. The Prime Minister said, "None of us has any personal matter here. If this is considered a good achievement, it is an achievement for Bangladesh. If the people of the country have gained any achievements from this visit, it is the achievement of the people." On Saturday, in the national parliament, after a unanimous vote of thanks for his visit to Malaysia and China was adopted, Tarique Rahman made this statement. After entering the session, Speaker Hafiz Uddin Ahmed said that in the Prime Minister's absence, after discussions among members of the government and opposition parties, a vote of thanks for the visit was unanimously adopted. Earlier in the session's commencement, the Minister of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives, Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, introduced a vote of thanks for the "unprecedented success" of the Prime Minister's visit to Malaysia and China from 21 to 26 June. Finance Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury and Opposition Leader and Ameer of Jamaat-e-Islami Shafiqur Rahman participated in the discussion on the proposal. The vote of thanks was later unanimously adopted by voice vote (*Prothom Alo*, [27 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Fakhrul urges Jamaat to apologise for 1971 role:** Bangladesh Nationalist Party secretary general and local government minister Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir on Sunday called on

Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami to apologise to the nation for its role during the 1971 War of Independence, saying such an apology would make the party's political path easier. Speaking during the general discussion on the proposed national budget for the financial year 2026-27 in the Jatiya Sangsad, Fakhrul addressed opposition lawmakers and said that they should reflect on their own political history. He said that the time had come for the Jamaat to seek forgiveness from the people for its role in 1971. According to Fakhrul, the party still had the opportunity to clearly explain its position on Bangladesh and acknowledge its past. Fakhrul said that he had yet to hear a clear apology from the party or a clear explanation of its position regarding Bangladesh's independence, arguing that its stance on the issue remained unclear. **The BNP secretary general also criticised the National Citizen Party for entering into an alliance with the Jamaat-e-Islami** (*New Age*, [29 June 2026](#)).

- ◆ **Nahid wants new Indian envoy to apologize:** Opposition Chief Whip Nahid Islam on Sunday said newly appointed Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Dinesh Trivedi should have apologized for what he alleged was India's direct and indirect support for the Awami League government over the past 16 years. Taking part in the general discussion on the proposed national budget for FY2026-27 in parliament, Nahid also accused India of providing shelter to those responsible for the July mass uprising killings and the murder of Sharif Osman Hadi. "The new Indian High Commissioner came to Bangladesh and began speaking sweetly about shared skies and lands. But we have not forgotten the last 16 years," he said. According to Nahid, the envoy's first step should have been to apologize for India's alleged role in supporting the previous Awami League government and for sheltering individuals accused of involvement in the July killings. He said the Indian envoy should instead have outlined how New Delhi intended to build a new relationship with Bangladesh based on dignity and equality. **The NCP leader also criticized what he described as continued border killings, claiming that India's Border Security Force (BSF) had killed 10 Bangladeshis since the present government assumed office.** He alleged that India had also been attempting to push people into Bangladesh by labelling them as illegal Bangladeshi nationals. Nahid expressed disappointment that parliament did not allocate time to discuss the issue of "push-ins" during the budget session. **Criticizing remarks by West Bengal Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari, Nahid said the Indian politician had been making "reckless" comments about Bangladesh** (*Dhaka Tribune*, [28 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **'Are you trying to rehabilitate Awami League?' Azharul asks BNP:** Jamaat-e-Islami Nayebe-Ameer and Rangpur-2 MP ATM Azharul Islam questioned whether BNP was trying to rehabilitate Awami League. "You have called for banning Jamaat. Let me ask just one thing. Suppose we are banned. Who will fill that vacuum?" the senior Jamaat leader asked, addressing the BNP. Azharul made the remarks while speaking during the general discussion on the proposed national budget for the 2026-27 fiscal year in parliament. The Jamaat MP further asked, "Will you run the country alone? Do you want to establish a one-party rule? Who will fill that space? Are you trying to rehabilitate the Awami League? I believe you are trying to rehabilitate the Awami League." Azharul said issues that can be resolved in parliament should not be taken outside the House for debate. "It will not be good for you, for us, or for anyone," he said. Referring to the Jamaat ameer's call for a "revolution", Azhar said there was no need to call for one, adding that if the spirit of July is not implemented, the people themselves will launch a revolution (*The Daily Star*, [28 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Govt will move towards collapse if reforms not implemented:** National Citizen Party (NCP) Chief Coordinator Nasiruddin Patwary warned that the government would head

towards collapse if reforms are not implemented in Bangladesh. He said that 75 percent of the country's people had voted in favour of radical change in Bangladesh and reforms through a referendum, "standing on the blood of 1,400 martyrs." "But after the election, we have seen the government go against the will of that 75 percent. Instead of implementing the referendum's verdict and advancing the reform process, it has taken a different path," he said. Patwary made the remarks while addressing a views-exchange meeting at the Zilla Parishad Auditorium in Moulvibazar on Sunday afternoon. The Barlekha upazila unit of the 11-party alliance organised the event (*The Daily Star*, [29 June 2026](#)).

Economy

- ◆ **Fresh protest programme calls for end to 'conspiracy' over NCT-CCT port operation deal:** The group calling itself the "Port Protection Committee Chattogram" has announced a protest programme calling the initiative to hand over the responsibility of operating the New Mooring Container Terminal (NCT) and Chittagong Container Terminal (CCT) of Chittagong Port to domestic and foreign companies a "conspiracy". The committee, comprising labour leaders, politicians, engineers and citizens from different classes and professions, held a press conference at the Chattogram Press Club on Sunday and announced the programme. The organisation will hold a human chain demonstration and rally programme at the Press Club premises at 11am on Wednesday (*bdnews24.com*, [28 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Bangladesh will fast-track Teesta feasibility study with China, water resources minister says:** Bangladesh will move quickly to complete the feasibility study needed to begin work on the long-awaited Teesta master plan following China's agreement to provide technical assistance, Water Resources Minister Shahiduddin Chowdhury Anee has said. The minister made the remarks to the media while accompanying Prime Minister Tarique Rahman on his state visit to China. He said Bangladesh had also sought China's cooperation on broader river management, including rivers linked to shared water resources. "We will coordinate on those rivers as well. Based on China's support for the Teesta project, we will soon decide the implementation timeline. We want to take the Teesta plan to the people as quickly as possible. We are paying special attention so work can begin under this budget," the minister said. Anee said the Teesta project featured prominently in discussions during the prime minister's meetings with Chinese leaders (*bdnews24.com*, [28 June 2026](#)).

Foreign Policy

- ◆ **CPC minister calls on PM Tarique Rahman, stresses advancing bilateral ties:** Prime Minister Tarique Rahman on Thursday sought China's support in Bangladesh's development projects and construction of China-Bangladesh Friendship Hospital. He made the call when Liu Haixing, Minister of International Affairs of the Communist Party of China, paid a courtesy call on him at the State Diaoyutai Guest House in Beijing. Liu Haixing also mentioned the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between the BNP and the Communist Party of China and expressed his interest in further enhancing communication and cooperation between the two parties. He hoped that new areas of cooperation would be created in the future, especially in the areas of media, think-tanks, people-to-people contact

and improvement of living standards. The Chinese leader said China is a strong supporter of Bangladesh's sovereignty, security and development and stressed advancing the relations between the two countries on the basis of mutual respect and cooperation. Prime Minister Tarique Rahman looked forward to China's cooperation in Bangladesh's development projects and the construction of the China-Bangladesh Friendship Hospital. He hoped that the legacy of the long-standing friendly relations between the two countries would continue (*Prothom Alo*, [25 June 2026](#)).

- ◆ **Dhaka, Beijing agree to boost cooperation in Teesta, other river management:** Bangladesh and China have agreed to strengthen cooperation in the management of the Teesta and other rivers in Bangladesh. The agreement came when Chinese water resources minister Li Guoying called on Prime Minister Tarique Rahman at Diaoyutai state guest house in Beijing on Thursday. During the meeting, the prime minister highlighted Bangladesh's ongoing river excavation programme aimed at reducing flood risks, protecting the environment, and ensuring the proper management of water resources. **In this connection, he sought China's support in improving Bangladesh's water resource management. Tarique Rahman also sought Chinese technical assistance in the Teesta management project. In response, the Chinese minister assured of extending full cooperation to Bangladesh government's initiatives in water resource management.** Referring to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Bangladesh and China in 2005, as well as the visit of Chinese water experts to Bangladesh last year, he stated that bilateral cooperation between the two countries in water resource management is practical and research-based. Tarique Rahman also sought China's assistance in preventing riverbank erosion, improving irrigation systems, and enhancing inland water navigation in Bangladesh. The Chinese minister noted that Bangladesh could benefit from China's experience in water management and invited Bangladeshi water experts and official concerned to receive training in China (*Prothom Alo*, [25 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **China says No third-party influence on Teesta project:** Reiterating its support for the Teesta River Comprehensive Management and Restoration Project (TRCMRP), China on Friday said cooperation between Bangladesh and China should be free from third party influence. "I would like to stress that China-Bangladesh cooperation does not target any third party and should be free from third party influence," Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Guo Jiakun told reporters in Beijing while responding to a question. The spokesperson stated China's position after a reporter flagged India's concerns over the Teesta cooperation between Bangladesh and China. **"The comprehensive treatment and restoration of the Teesta River is a livelihood project to which the Bangladeshi side attaches high importance. China is ready to do what it can to support this project," said Guo Jiakun.** Seeking deeper cooperation with Bangladesh in integrated water resources management, China has decided to provide support within its capacity to the TRCMRP. The Chinese side will also support experts from both countries in expediting the feasibility study of the project and related work, according to a joint statement shared by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Friday. The two sides agreed to deepen cooperation in areas such as integrated water resources management, water resources planning, hydrological forecasting, flood prevention and disaster reduction, river dredging, and related technology sharing. They also agreed to strengthen cooperation in maritime affairs (*Dhaka Tribune*, [26 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Humaiun Kabir says Chinese premier assures Bangladesh of China's role in resolving Rohingya crisis:** Chinese Premier Li Qiang on Thursday assured Bangladesh that China will play its due role in efforts to resolve the Rohingya crisis, including through engagement

with the Myanmar government, Prime Minister's Foreign Affairs Adviser Humaiun Kabir said. The assurance came during bilateral talks between Prime Minister Tarique Rahman and Premier Li Qiang at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, where the Rohingya issue a prominent topic of discussion. Speaking at a press conference at the Diaoyutai State Guest House, Humaiun said Prime Minister Tarique raised the Rohingya crisis as one of Bangladesh's foremost security concerns. **He also said the Chinese premier welcomed Bangladesh's application to join the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).** During the meeting, Li Qiang expressed support for Bangladesh's development efforts and discussed expanding cooperation between the two countries, the adviser added. He said Tarique Rahman's vision for foreign policy, regional cooperation, regional stability and shared economic prosperity aligns with China's regional vision and its outlook on international cooperation. Summing up the visit, Humaiun said it will not only be remembered as a historic one but also pave the way for a more dynamic and comprehensive relationship between Bangladesh and China based on mutual respect (*Dhaka Tribune*, [25 June 2026](#)).

- ◆ **Tarique Rahman, Li Qiang hold bilateral talks, 13 MoUs inked:** Prime Minister Tarique Rahman and his Chinese counterpart Li Qiang held a bilateral meeting at the Great Hall of the People while several memorandum of understandings (MoUs) were signed between the two nations. Bangladesh and China today, Thursday signed 13 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) covering various areas of cooperation between the two countries. **The signing of the MoUs is expected to elevate bilateral cooperation between the two countries to a new level.** Prime Minister's Office (PMO) Spokesperson Mahdi Amin said **the agreements cover a number of aeras, including investment cooperation, trade expansion, human resource development, education, health and media collaboration. Investment cooperation, promotion of green development, and the formulation of joint action plans to strengthen bilateral collaboration have also been covered, he said.** “The discussions also focused on **enhancing Bangladesh’s export capacity to increase** shipments to the Chinese market, as well as expanding development cooperation in various sectors,” he said. “MoUs were also signed under the framework of the Global Development Initiative (GDI), covering cooperation in health, education, manpower capacity building, and other development-related areas aimed at strengthening institutional and human resource capacities,” he added. A different cooperation plan on human resource development was also signed, while another MoU was concluded to facilitate the export of Bangladesh's national fruit, jackfruit, to China, the PMO spokesperson added. He said two separate MoUs were signed on introducing Mandarin language education in school curriculum in Bangladesh and enhancing cooperation in technical and vocational education. The two sides also agreed to expand cooperation in the media sector of the two countries and strengthen collaboration among think tanks of Bangladesh and China, said Mahdi Amin, also prime minister’s adviser. Four MoUs were signed involving state-owned television channels and newspapers of the two countries to enhance exchanges and cooperation, he said. About the investment-related MoU, the PMO spokesperson said a deal was inked to attract greater Chinese investment in the economic zones of Anwara in Chattogram and Mongla in Bagerhat. “There is a separate MoU on how we can set up new Chinese factories, Chinese production facilities in the economic zones in Bangladesh... and generate employment through them,” he said. About four MoUs related to media cooperation, a press release from the PMO said the four important documents were signed with China's Xinhua News Agency and China Media Group (CMG). According to the PMO release, the MoUs will promote bilateral cooperation in news and information exchange, establish long-term partnerships in the media sector, facilitate joint research on issues relating to Global South media, and expand cooperation and experience-sharing in broadcasting and the use of

technology. The MoUs are expected to further strengthen the long-standing friendship between Bangladesh and China and open new avenues of cooperation in the media and information sectors. Under the MoU, the two parties are expected to enhance communication and cooperation, particularly in the fields of media, think tanks, people-to-people exchanges and initiatives aimed at improving living standards (*Prothom Alo*, [25 June 2026](#)).

- ◆ **China proposes Bangladesh-Myanmar-China economic corridor:** China on Friday proposed the establishment of an economic corridor linking Bangladesh, Myanmar and China aimed at further deepening regional connectivity and trade. “Today, Prime Minister Tarique Rahman had detailed discussions with Chinese President Xi Jinping on connectivity... A proposal came there on how an economic corridor could be established from Bangladesh to China via Myanmar,” said Prime Minister’s Office spokesperson Mahdi Amin. He said this while briefing newsmen at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing, China following Prime Minister Tarique Rahman’s meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping at the Great Hall of the People in the morning. During the meeting, the two leaders discussed various bilateral issues relating to connectivity, people to people contact, further enhancing bilateral ties and regarding Chinese support for modernising Chittagong and Mongla sea ports. **Providing details, the PMO spokesperson said the main objective of this economic corridor would be to expand Bangladesh’s economy, increase economic transactions, and further enhance multimodal transportation.** Mahdi Amin also said that China expressed interest in further modernising Chittagong port to make it as a regional business hub (*Prothom Alo*, [26 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Xi pledges China will remain Bangladesh’s ‘trusted friend’: PM’s Adviser Humaiun Kobir:** Chinese President Xi Jinping on Friday assured that China will remain a “trusted friend” of Bangladesh in implementing Prime Minister Tarique Rahman’s development vision. Xi gave the assurance during a meeting with Tarique Rahman on the final day of the Bangladesh prime minister’s visit to China at the Great Hall of the People this morning. The two leaders discussed a range of bilateral issues of mutual interest. “During the meeting at the Great Hall of the People, President Xi has assured Prime Minister Tarique Rahman of China’s long-term support for Bangladesh’s development, saying that China would remain a ‘trusted friend’ throughout Bangladesh’s development journey,” Prime Minister’s Foreign Affairs Adviser Humaiun Kobir told a press conference at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing. Xi also assured that China is ready to support the implementation of Prime Minister Tarique Rahman’s vision for Bangladesh’s development, economic transformation, regional cooperation, and stability, he added. He said that the Chinese President praised Tarique Rahman’s development vision and expressed full confidence in his leadership (*Prothom Alo*, [26 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **China MoUs to bring ‘qualitative change’ to Bangladesh’s new media, says information minister:** Information Minister Zahir Uddin Swapon has expressed optimism that Bangladesh’s new media sector will undergo a “qualitative change” following a series of cooperation agreements signed with China. Reacting to the memorandums of understanding signed between the information ministries of the two countries, the minister said Bangladesh and China had agreed to share experience and knowledge in information management. “As information minister, I signed four memorandums of understanding with the Chinese government. Through these agreements, we have agreed to jointly exchange our experience and knowledge in information management,” he said. Following bilateral talks between Prime Minister Tarique Rahman and his Chinese counterpart Li Qiang at the Great

Hall of the People in Beijing on Thursday, Bangladesh and China signed 17 memorandums of understanding. Of those, 13 were signed in the presence of the two prime ministers. Six relate to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, with the Bangladeshi side represented by Swapon (*bdnews24.com*, [28 June 2026](#)).

- ◆ **India to resume tourist visa for Bangladeshis from Sunday:** India has announced the resumption of tourist visas for Bangladeshi citizens as part of efforts to normalize bilateral relations. New Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Dinesh Trivedi made the announcement on Thursday at a press conference held at the Indian Visa Application Centre in Dhaka. He said visa services will be provided through five centres across the country—Dhaka, Rajshahi, Chittagong, Sylhet and Khulna. Earlier, Dinesh Trivedi presented his credentials to President Mohammed Shahabuddin at Bangabhaban (*bdnews24.com*, [25 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Bangladesh, Maldives reaffirm closer bilateral cooperation:** Bangladesh and the Maldives have reaffirmed their resolve to further deepen their longstanding bilateral relations and expand cooperation at both bilateral and multilateral forums during a phone conversation between the two countries' foreign ministers. Maldives' Foreign Minister Iruthisham Adam recently held a telephone conversation with Bangladesh Foreign Minister Dr. Khalilur Rahman and discussed ways to deepen the friendly relations between the two countries according to a message received here today. During the conversation, the two foreign ministers reaffirmed their shared commitment to further strengthening the longstanding friendship and partnership between Bangladesh and the Maldives. They also exchanged views on regional and international developments of mutual interest and underscored the importance of continued cooperation and close coordination at both the bilateral and multilateral levels (*BSS News*, [26 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **PM's visit deepens Dhaka-Kuala Lumpur strategic partnership:** Foreign Minister Dr. Khalilur Rahman on Saturday said Prime Minister Tarique Rahman's recent visit to Malaysia has elevated bilateral relations to a new level, marked by close personal communication between the two prime ministers and major progress in trade, labor, and strategic cooperation. "Malaysia willingly agreed to put the negotiations on a bilateral Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with Bangladesh on the fast track," he told a media briefing at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs while highlighting the outcomes of the prime minister's just-concluded visits to Malaysia and China. Dr Rahman said that Bangladesh and Malaysia expressed commitment to conclude a mutually beneficial, comprehensive, and future-oriented FTA by 2027. The foreign minister said the prime minister's engagements in Kuala Lumpur underscored Bangladesh's growing importance to Malaysia (*Dhaka Tribune*, [27 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Pakistan envoy meets PM's defence adviser:** Pakistan high commissioner to Bangladesh Imran Haider on Sunday paid a courtesy call on prime minister's defence adviser retired Brigadier General AKM Shamsul Islam at the armed forces division in Dhaka Cantonment. The high commissioner led a three-member delegation during the meeting, according to a press release issued by the Inter Services Public Relations in the afternoon. **During the meeting, the two sides discussed existing bilateral relations between Bangladesh and Pakistan and exchanged views on a range of issues of mutual interest. They particularly focused on enhancing military-to-military cooperation, sharing professional experiences and expanding training-related activities between the two countries, the ISPR said.** Both sides underscored the importance of strengthening defence cooperation and expressed optimism that the meeting

would contribute to further consolidating and expanding the friendly relations and defence collaboration between Bangladesh and Pakistan, the release added (*New Age*, [29 June 2026](#)).

Security

- ◆ **Bangladeshi found dead across Sylhet border:** The body of a Bangladeshi man was recovered from across the Dumduma border in Companiganj upazila of Sylhet on Wednesday evening. The deceased was identified as Mik Kondo Jani, 60, son of the late Shukriya Kondo Jani of the Kulibasti area in Turung village under Companiganj upazila. According to family members, Mik Kondo lived near the zero point on the border and regularly crossed into India to collect firewood and seasonal fruits in exchange for labour. He worked as a day labourer in orchards owned by members of the Khasi community in India and would bring back fruits and wood for sale. On Wednesday at around 11am, he crossed the border as usual. When he failed to return home by evening, relatives began searching for him. His brother, Nikhil, later found his body lying in a stream inside Indian territory near border pillar No 1260. Family members recovered the body from about 100 yards inside India and brought it back to Bangladesh. They said they noticed several injuries and cut marks on his head and other parts of his body. Sub-Inspector Wali Ullah, who prepared the inquest report, said multiple injury marks were found on the victim's body. "Based on the injuries to his ear and eye, it appears that he may have been shot," the officer said. Confirming the incident, Companiganj Police Station Officer-in-Charge Shafiqul Islam Khan said police had visited the scene after receiving information. "Legal procedures regarding the matter are currently underway," he added (*Dhaka Tribune*, [25 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Push-in–push-back at Bangladesh-India border sparks human rights concerns:** Nine people—three men, three women and three children—sit stranded on the zero line of the Bangladesh-India border, exposed to scorching sun and torrential rain, with no food or water. The Indian Border Security Force (BSF) claims they are Bangladeshi nationals. Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) says no one can be accepted without formal verification. Caught in this state-level standoff, the group remains in limbo, their identity, safety and dignity hanging in uncertainty. Around 4am on Wednesday, BSF attempted to push the nine individuals into Bangladesh through the Adatola border area under pillar 244/MP in Sapahar upazila of Naogaon. However, alertness from BGB and local residents prevented their entry. By 5pm, they had already spent nearly 13 hours on the zero line. Locals said they had no food or water, raising particular concern over the condition of the three children. The incident has again raised a broader question: is this merely a matter of border management, or a direct issue of human rights, citizenship and state accountability? Tensions over "push-in" and "push-back" incidents along the Bangladesh-India border have intensified in recent weeks (*Dhaka Tribune*, [27 June 2026](#)).
- ◆ **The saga of four Indians pushed into Bangladesh:** Four Indian nationals, including two children, have remained stuck in Bangladesh for nearly a year after being pushed across the border by India's Border Security Force. Indian authorities are yet to take them back despite repatriating two other members of the same group. The four — Danish Sheikh, 28, Sweety Bibi, 33, and her two sons aged 16 and 6 — are currently living in Chapainawabganj in the care of local resident Faruk Hossain after being released on bail from jail. Faruk, a resident of Kalyanpur village in Chapainawabganj, on Sunday told *New Age* that he had been supporting the family since a Bangladeshi court granted them bail and placed them in his custody. 'I have

repeatedly contacted the Chapainawabganj deputy commissioner and the Indian High Commission in Bangladesh. They said that the process was under way, but nobody could tell me when the four will be taken back. . . I can no longer bear their expenses,' he said. According to the group, they lived in Delhi and worked as waste collectors before being detained by the Delhi Police in June 2025 on suspicion of lacking valid documents. They alleged that they were later taken to Assam and pushed into Bangladesh through Kurigram border at night by BSF members. Four Indian nationals, including two children, have remained stuck in Bangladesh for nearly a year after being pushed across the border by India's Border Security Force. The Bangladesh police arrested the six Indian nationals from the Alinagar area of Chapainawabganj town on August 20, 2025. A case was filed against them subsequently under the Bangladesh Passport (Entry into Bangladesh) Act and they were sent to jail by a court. However, the two children were not made accused in the case. According to Indian media reports, the Calcutta High Court on September 27, 2025 ordered the repatriation of the six individuals, describing their alleged push-in into Bangladesh as illegal and directing India's union home ministry to ensure their return to West Bengal within four weeks. On December 5, the BSF took back Sonali Bibi, nine-month pregnant at the time, and her eight-year-old son through Sonamasjid land port in Chapainawabganj's Shibganj upazila. However, the remaining four have yet to be repatriated. Danish Sheikh told New Age that after detaining them, the Delhi police demanded Tk 3,00,000 from him. 'Since I could not pay the money, they pushed me, my pregnant wife Sonali Khatun, and our son into Bangladesh,' he claimed. New Age could not independently verify the allegation (*New Age*, [28 June 2026](#)).

- ◆ **BGB foils 2 more push-in bids in Habiganj, Meherpur:** The Border Guard Bangladesh and local people foiled two more push-in attempts by the Indian Border Security Force through several points in Habiganj and Meherpur districts between Friday and Saturday. With this, BGB personnel and local residents have prevented at least 56 alleged push-in attempts by the BSF since early May, following the Indian Bharatiya Janata Party's win in the recent West Bengal polls, according to BGB officials. According to Border Guard Bangladesh officials and the police, at least 2,366 people, including 126 Indian nationals, were pushed into Bangladesh from India since May 7, 2025. The BGB said that a BSF team attempted to push a number of individuals in the darkness of night through a point near international border pillar No 1982 at the BGB's Teliapara border outpost area under Shahjahanpur union of the Madhabpur upazila at about 3:00am after switching off the security lights along the border (*New Age*, [28 May 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Mysterious rise in Kalima flags draws security scrutiny:** The rapid spread of white flags bearing the Islamic declaration of faith (Kalima) across roads, bridges and neighbourhoods in Dhaka and several other districts has triggered growing security concerns, with police launching inquiries and experts warning that the use of designs resembling those adopted by internationally designated extremist groups could damage Bangladesh's image abroad. Over the past two weeks, rows of white flags with Arabic inscriptions have appeared along major roads, flyovers and residential areas in Dhaka, Narayanganj, Bogra, Faridpur, Gopalganj and several other districts. Motorcycle processions and rallies carrying similar flags have also circulated widely on social media, accompanied in some cases by slogans rejecting the traditional display of Argentina and Brazil flags during the FIFA World Cup. Police Headquarters confirmed that law enforcement agencies are monitoring the issue to determine whether the displays are purely religious expressions or part of a coordinated campaign with other objectives. Those involved in the campaign insist the flags represent Islam rather than any political or militant organisation. Some participants argue that if supporters are free to display the flags of Argentina or Brazil during the World Cup, displaying a flag carrying the

Kalima should not be viewed differently. However, security analysts caution that the concern lies not with the Kalima itself but with the specific designs being used. For decades, organisations including Al-Qaeda, the Islamic State group and other extremist organisations have used similar black or white flags bearing Arabic inscriptions as part of their visual identity. As a result, analysts say such imagery is widely recognised internationally as being associated with extremist movements, regardless of the intention of those displaying it (*Dhaka Tribune*, [28 June 2026](#)).

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